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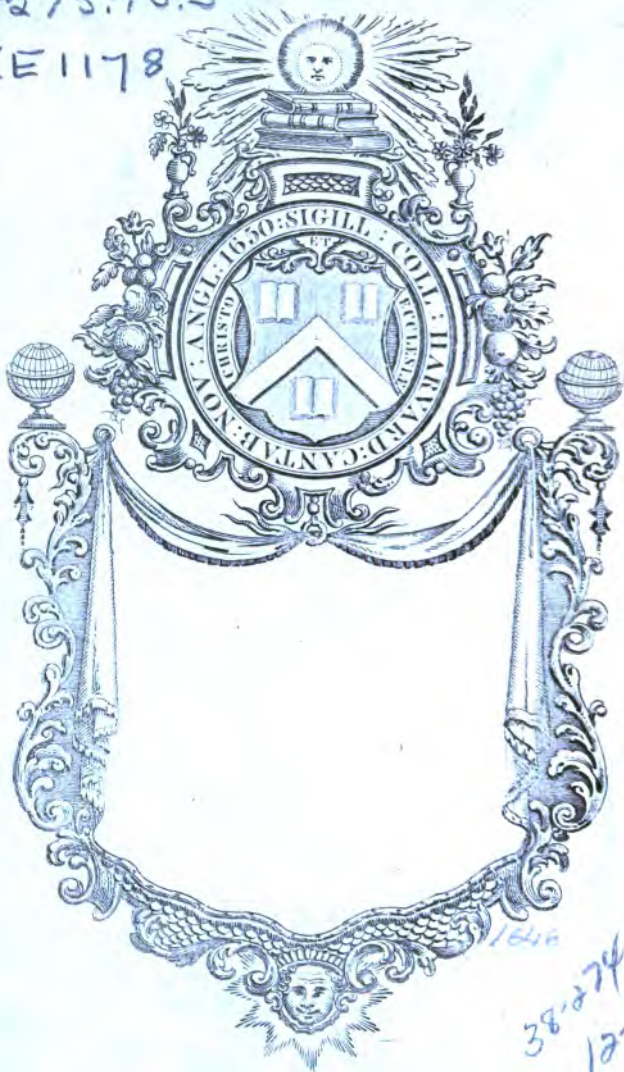
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° L E T T E R S
A N D
N E G O T I A T I O N S
O F T H E
Comte de
C O U N T D' Estrades,

Ambassador from LEWIS XIV. to the
States-General of the *United-Provinces*
of the *Low-Countries*.

From the Year 1663 to the Year 1669.

Consisting chiefly of
Original LETTERS and INSTRUCTIONS
from the *French King*, and his Ministers,
to the said Count; with his Answers.

Wherein are
Several Secret TRANSACTIONS between the
Courts of *England* and *France* during that time.

, Translated by several Hands.

VOLUME the THIRD.

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LETTERS,
Memoirs and Negotiations
OF THE
COUNT D'ESTRADES,

Ambassador from His Most Christian
Majesty, to the Lords the States-Gener-
al of the *United Provinces* of the Low-
Countries.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : January 7, 1667.*

I Have receiv'd yours of the 30th ult.
I can't conceive what use Monsieur de
Wit makes of the Copies of such of the
King's Letters, and mine, as you put in-
to his Hands. I'm of Opinion that for
the future you ought to be more re-
serv'd in that particular. I would not be understood of
those wherein his Majesty gives an Assurance, that he
never will enter into any Accommodation with the
Enemy, but in concert with the King of *Denmark* and
Vol. III. B the

the States; for as those Letters contain the King's real Intentions, and from which he is resolv'd never to depart, we should be contented not only to have 'em communicated to the Directors of the State, but should be well pleas'd if they were printed, and dispers'd in the Provinces; but in one of mine which I writ lately to you, I exclaim'd much against the *English*, whose chief aim at the bottom seems to be to break our Alliance. This Letter had not been six Days at the *Hague* before a Copy of it was transmitted into *England*, where it had like to have produced the most unlucky Effects in the World in relation to the Peace; for the Party, that are averse to it there, try'd, upon this Occasion to stop the Earl of *St. Albans* Departure, making loud Outcries against the Insincerity of *France*, whose design was, as they said, to fish in troubled Waters, and lengthen the War; but the King of *England* sent the Queen his Mother word that he was of another Opinion, and that notwithstanding all this Stir he would dispatch the Earl of *St. Albans*. In effect, the Earl himself has sent a Letter by the last Mail to Monsieur *Rouvigny*, which he has or will show to Monsieur *Van Beuningen*, wherein he tells him in express Terms, that he'll set out within eight Days at farthest, supply'd with every thing Necessary to satisfy his Letter of the 24th. These words, if they hold true, are very much to the purpose; we have made many Reflections upon 'em here, at which Monsieur *de Wit* will prove better than we.

However, at the same time the Resident of *Sweden* came to show me some Letters he had receiv'd from his Master's Ambassadors at *London*, wherein they tell him, that having discours'd with Chancellor *Hyde* about some neutral unsuspected Place wherein to manage the Treaty of Peace, the Chancellor reply'd, that the King his Master was ready enough to consent to it, but that it was necessary the Letter the States had propos'd to write to his Majesty upon that Subject should be precedent to it; that is, he would have 'em declare in a Letter for that purpose, that without any
 Confide-

Consideration had of their Allies, they would readily consent to have the Treaty managed in *England*.

My Answer to the Resident *Puffendorf*, by the King's Order, was, That this Discourse of the Chancellor's consisted of two Points very different one from the other; that as for the first, his Majesty had nothing to say against it, but would rather advise the States to gratify the King of *England* in such a piece of Civility, since he desir'd it; and his Majesty's Pleasure is that you should advise 'em to it.

I forgot to tell you that the Chancellor went farther, and told the Ambassadors, that if the States, in the same Letter, would offer to the King his Majesty the Choice of a Place for the Congress, his Majesty was ready to give his Word to the said Ambassadors, that he would chuse no Town in the *Spanish Netherlands*.

That as to the second Point, the King finding himself at the Head of our Party, could never consent without derogating from his Honour, that the Nomination should be left to the King of *Great Britain*, as he did not expect that King would consent to have it referr'd to his Majesty, it being a Matter more proper to be settled by Mediators; and indeed his Majesty desires, that if you observe a Disposition in *Holland* to refer the Choice to the King of *England*, you would oppose it in his Name with all necessary Vigour. We are of Opinion here, that this Demand is the Effect of some secret Agreement between the *English* and *Swedes* to transfer the Congress to *Hamburg*, in which case *France* would lye under the Disadvantage of being at a farther Distance than any of the other Powers concern'd, and consequently would find it more difficult to convey from time to time the necessary Orders to our Ministers; however, that the World may see with how much Sincerity his Majesty proceeds in this Affair, and that his Objections to *Flanders* are not out of a Humour, nor for any other Reason but because he doth not think it safe to have his Dispatches lye at the Mercy

of the Governour of *Flanders*, who makes it his Business to rob the Couriers, his Majesty is pleas'd I should acquaint Mr. *Puffendorf*, that if the King of *England*, pursuant to Monsieur de *Ruvigny's* of the 24th of *November*, will accept of the second Alternative offer'd by the States, as in this Case the Business will not require a long Negotiation, but only the signing of one Article, which of it self will comprehend the whole Treaty, I say upon this Consideration the King will make no scruple of sending his Plenipotentiaries to a Town even in the *Spanish* Dominions. You may impart this if you please to Monsieur de *Wit*, that he may the better understand the Steps we are taking.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : January 7, 1667.

WHEN I had finish'd my Dispatch, Monsieur *Puffendorf*, the *Swedish* Resident, came to tell me that the last Letter from *London* had put a Thought into his Head, which he was willing to communicate to me, that I might know the King's Sentiments upon it. It was, that the States, in the Letter they are to write to the King of *England*, may offer him the Choice of the Place in their own behalf; but upon Condition his Majesty and the King of *Denmark* be brought to consent to it, without which they can neither offer nor accept any Place whatsoever, and all this upon a Presupposition that the King of *England* shall first have given his Word to the Mediators to chuse no Town in *Flanders*; and that when this is settled, the King of *England* shall name three Places to his Majesty and the King of *Denmark*, of which they shall pitch upon one. Having mention'd this to the King, his Answer by me to Monsieur *Puffendorf* was, that his Majesty for his Part would not advise the States to offer the King of *England* the Choice of the Place, but he had nothing to say

ly against it if they were dispos'd to it of themselves, but then it must be with an Addition of the Clause above-mention'd, *viz.* Provided his Majesty and the King of *Denmark* were prevail'd upon to accept of the same Place, without whose Consent they could neither refer nor agree to the Choice of any Place whatsoever. As to the second Part of Monsieur *Puffendorf's* Proposition, relating to the adjusting of the Place between the Kings, his Majesty agrees that either he and the King of *Denmark* shall name three to the King of *England*, who shall make choice of one, or that he shall name three, and leave the Choice to them. His Majesty commanded me to impart these Particulars to you, that you may the better know how to act upon Occasion in Conformity to his Pleasure, and in the mean time you are to acquaint Monsieur *de Wit* and Monsieur *de Klingenberg* with the whole Proceeding.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: January 13, 1667.

I Have communicated both yours of the 7th to Monsieur *de Wit*; he protests he never acquainted the Directors of secret Affairs, with the full Contents of any of those Dispatches I had communicated to him; so that the Letter you mention must have been in the Packet the *Spaniards* intercepted; and give me leave to add, that I never gave him any Copies but what may safely be printed, and that I never suffer any thing to go out of my Hands, that may be prejudicial to the King's Service. You will see, Sir, by the Tenour of the States Letter to the King of *England*, that they have follow'd his Majesty's Intentions; they desir'd me to transmit a Copy of that, and of the Mediators, to the King. I have observ'd from several Discourses with Monsieur *de Wit*, that the King would oblige him, and the Province of *Holland*, if his Majesty made choice of *Liege*

rather than any other, for the Place of Treaty; probably, because in case of Necessity he might be able to go thither himself; this is only a Supposition of my own, he having made no Overture on his Part. I have communicated to Monsieur de Klingenberg so much of our Dispatches, as relate to the Negotiation, and he was extremely pleas'd with the Visit I made him on that Occasion.

Monsieur Zuylichem has answer'd you by his Son since the last Post; he is a great Partisan of France in this Country,

An *English* Squadron of eleven Men of War fell in with five of the *Dutch*, of which two were taken, and the other three got clear off; this will not serve to rig out an Equipage for the next Campaign.

You will observe by the Answer of the States to my Memorial touching the *White Faulcon*, their Reasons for refusing to deliver her into our Hands. I reply'd, that I insisted upon the Execution of the Treaty in 1662, importing that all Prizes shall be condemn'd where the Captors receiv'd their Commissions, to which they have return'd me no Answer.

The States-General of the United-Provinces to the King of Great Britain:
January 13, 1667.

S I R,

I N our Letter of the 26th of *November* past, we gave your Majesty our Reasons for not agreeing to send our Ministers to *London*, there to treat of a Peace with your Majesty, or such Ministers as your Majesty should Authorise for that purpose; and we doubt not, but if your Majesty has duly weigh'd 'em, you are convinced by 'em. But that nothing may be wanting on our Sides to the furthering so good a Design, and that our
good

good Inclinations signified in the same Letter may more fully appear, we take this opportunity of assuring your Majesty, that the Instances we made then, as well as at several other times before, that your Majesty would be pleas'd to consent to some neutral Town for the Place of Treaty, do not proceed so much from any regard had to our selves, who of our selves would make no difficulty of waving all Formalities of that Nature, that we might infallibly attain to the Perfection of so Christian a Work upon Conditions safe and honourable, and in that Case were ready to treat any where, even in *England*, under the formal Assurances your Majesty has so often given us; but that those Instances were made in behalf of the Kings of *France* and *Denmark*, who by Virtue of the Alliance that is between us, are equally with us become Principals in this present War. For which reason, as it is just in Respect of the fore-mention'd Princes, and consequently necessary on our own Parts in regard of the strict Tie there is between us, that the Treaty should be begun, and in good time happily accomplish'd in some Place out of your Majesty's Territories, we were willing, in order to facilitate so necessary a Work, to request your Majesty that you would be pleas'd to consider this Affair just as it is, and in the manner we have been representing it to you, and consent to have the Treaty in some neutral Place, where the Ministers of the Powers concern'd may act with convenient Safety; and the rather, because we have oftentimes heretofore explain'd our selves to your Majesty upon the same point with much Firmness and Sincerity; and if your Majesty will be pleas'd to come in with the same Resolution, and Openness of Heart, there is reason to hope that a few Days will bring this good Work to the last Perfection. To which we beseech God to incline your Majesty's Heart more and more, that we may with more ardor pray for your Majesty's Prosperity, and sign our selves, Sir, &c. *Hague, January 13, 1667.*

Subscrib'd, To the King of Great Britain.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: January 20, 1667.

THE Province of *Holland* have given their Assurances for the Payment of their Debt to the King of *Denmark*, but the other Provinces are so far in Arrears, that unless *Holland* takes it upon 'em, I can't see how those Payments will be made, without which that Prince's Fleet can't put to Sea. Monsieur de Wit endeavours to perswade his Masters to it, but I don't hear that any of the Towns have as yet consented.

An Invitation has been made to the King of *Sweden* to enter into the Alliance, to which he has return'd no Answer, so that the matter sticks where it did before the Proposal was made.

Monsieur the Count de *Dohna* comes with Orders to enter into that Affair, and if I may be instructed to assist him, I'll do my best. According to Monsieur d'*Isbrand's* last Dispatches, Monsieur *Dohna's* Instructions were not finish'd. This has been confirm'd to me by Monsieur de *Pomponne's* Letter, who acquaints me with Monsieur d'*Isbrand's* Departure, and that he is well inclined to an Union between his Masters and the King of *Sweden*. He will find it no easie matter to be brought about, the greatest part of the Towns in *Holland* being very jealous of the *Swedish* Conduct. Monsieur de Wit will never venture to propose in the Assembly of the States the Admission of the *Swedes* into the Alliance, so that we must wait for the Advances the Count de *Dohna* will make in that Affair, in case he finds it will be for his Master's Advantage, and then it will be my Business to act privately with our Friends, without giving 'em the least reason to think his Majesty is more concern'd for the Interest of *Sweden*, than that of the States. When you are come to any Resolution upon this Point, I desire I may know it as soon

soon as possible, for the Townsmust be prepar'd before any Overture can be made, and I assure you we shall find it no easie matter to bring 'em to consent, for the Averfion to *Sweden* is greater than can be exprest.

Castel Roderigo is giving all manner of Satisfaction to the States, and orders a Return of whatever had been exacted from the *Dutch* Merchantmen in the Custom-Houses of *Spain*, so that we look on that Affair as accommodated.

I have notified to the States the Queen's happy Delivery of a Princess: Upon which they sent me their Complements by their Deputies, and exprest their Joy as well for the Queen's Delivery as for that they heard her Majesty was in good Health, for which the Letters by the last Post gave 'em much uneasiness.

I have had a long Conference with *Monfieur de Ruyter*, and *Monfieur de Wit*, who is at present in perfect Health, about the King's Fleet, and what Provision must be made for it's safe return at the end of the Campaign.

Monfieur de Ruyter reply'd, 'twas impossible any sure Provision could be made for it, considering the many Accidents of the Seas; but this might be concluded as most certain, that he would do all he could to see his Majesty's Fleet safe in Harbour, provided he had his Master's Orders for it; but then it was necessary the Admiral of *France* should have the same Instructions in case of any Accident on the *Dutch* side, that if they should lose a Battel under such disadvantages as not to be able to retire alone into their Ports; but since such Accidents are uncertain, *Monfieur de Ruyter* is of Opinion, that the King ought to give the Admiral of *France* Power of providing against all Accidents on the Spot, and that the States ought to grant him the like, that they two may in a Council of War take such Resolutions upon all Occasions, as are most safe and advantageous to the common Cause; upon which I added, that I thought those Terms too general, and that his Majesty's Fleet might lye exposed, if the Wind blew
Nore-

Nore-East as it did last Year, which would oblige the States Fleet to make the Coast of *Boulogne*, whilst that of *England* lay upon their own Shoar under the *Isle of Wight*, and consequently the King's Fleet would be flank'd by the Enemies; and what was to be done in that Conjunction? To which *de Ruyter* reply'd, that if this should happen after an Engagement that turn'd to our Advantage, we might jointly attack the *English* under their own Forts in the *Isle of Wight*, but if on the contrary, the Enemy should chance to have the better, and they should Steer thither or to the *Downs*, they might join ten or a dozen of their largest Ships with ours, and pursue the *English* into their own Ports, and even Winter there, rather than run the hazard of a dangerous Voyage home; and that the same Method might be pursued in case the Action happen'd near their Provinces, and they should be oblig'd to retire towards *Ireland*, supposing the *English* Fleet so situated as to interrupt their getting into *Flushing*, without being reinforced by a Squadron from *France*. There is no certain Conclusion to be gather'd from all this; and therefore I leave it to you, Sir, to make your Reflections upon it. Since this *Monsieur de Ruyter* din'd at my House, and I began the same Discourse; but he is of Opinion no positive Determinations can be taken upon the Matter, and that it's better to give the Admirals a Power of taking such Resolutions upon the spot, as the Issue, whether good or ill, shall suggest. I am, &c.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades.*

THE King has seen, and very well approves the Copy of the States Letter to the King of *England*, and *Monsieur de Wit's* Answer to the *Sieur Coyet*: And as to what *Monsieur de Wit* saith concerning the desire of the Province of *Holland*, to have the Treaty of Peace manag'd

manag'd at *Liege*, his Majesty was always inclin'd to that Place as most commodious for all Parties, both in respect of its Extent and Situation.

As to what I told you in my last of the King's consenting on his Part, that one Party should name three Places, and the other chuse one of 'em, we have since thought it necessary to settle the Question which Party is to have the Nomination, that the Election may be left to the other; and to avoid any Inconvenience that may arise on that score, I have propos'd to the *Swedish* Minister here, that both the one side and the other may have the Liberty of naming three Places to the Ambassadors of *Sweden*, and if it so happens that both Parties agree in the Nomination of any one Place, that Place shall be taken, and declared by the Mediators to be the Place of Assembly. With this if you please you may acquaint *Monsieur de Wit*.

I fancy I have discover'd, in a Discourse I lately had with the *Swedish* Secretary here, the real Grounds of the great Noise and Aversion in *Sweden* to the Act of Neutrality desir'd by the States. The Secretary ask'd me how it was possible for them to observe the Quality of Mediators, being oblig'd by Virtue of a Treaty with the *English* to assist 'em with 4000 Men, and if we should hereafter be necessitated to supply 'em with such a Body, will not the States consider it as an Infraction of the Act of Neutrality.

As I have often by express Order from the King told *Monsieur de Koningmark*, and writ the same thing to *Monsieur Van Benningen*, that neither his Majesty nor the States-General would have any thing to say against the *Swedes*, tho' they should furnish the *English* with such a Body, provided they did it purely because they thought themselves oblig'd to it, and went no farther; it will not be improper to consider if we may not farther assure the *Swedes*, that such a Supply will neither be interpreted as an Infraction of the Act of Neutrality, nor exclude 'em from the Office of Mediators. His Majesty's Pleasure is, that you confer with
Monsieur

Monfieur *de Wit* upon this Point, and as for his own Part the King doth not think it improper to make ſome ſuch Declaration to the Miniſters of *Sweden*, and the rather for that we may aſſure our ſelves the Regency of that Kingdom would be as glad to be excus'd from ſuch an Aſſiſtance of 4000 Men, as we could be our ſelves; and probably ſuch a Declaration will at once remove all the Difficulties the Act of Neutrality has met with in *Sweden*. You may, if you think fit, impart Monſieur *de Wit*'s Answer to Monſieur *Pomponne*.

*Memorial preſented by the Count D'Eſtrades
to the States-General of the United-
Provinces: January 24, 1667.*

THE Count *d'Eſtrades*, Ambaſſador Extraordinary of *France*, has Orders from the King his Maſter to deſire your Lordſhips Permiſſion, that the Ship call'd the *St. Francis* may load at *Amſterdam* 157 Laſts of Tar upon his Maſteſty's Account, to be transported from thence into his Magazines, where it's much wanted for the uſe of his Men of War; to which Requeſt the ſaid Ambaſſador promiſes himſelf you will readily agree. Dated at the *Hague*, January 24, 1667.

*Memorial preſented by the Count D'Eſtrades
to the States-General of the United-
Provinces: January 24, 1667.*

THE Count *d'Eſtrades*, Ambaſſador Extraordinary of *France*, repreſents to your Lordſhips, that having tranſmitted to the King his Maſter the explanatory Memorial he receiv'd from you touching the *White Falcon*, a Prize taken at Sea by Captain *Bagart*, Com-

Commander of a Privateer, by Vertue of a Commission of *France*, and carry'd into *Zealand*; his Majesty after having in Person examin'd the said Memorial, has return'd for Answer to me the said Ambassador, that he does not think your Reasons sufficient to deny, as you do, contrary to all Forms of Justice, the Privateer the Benefit of his Prize, and has Commanded me to represent again to your Lordships, in his Majesty's Name, that the said Vessel being made Prize by Vertue of a Commission from *France*, the Terms of the Treaty made in 1662 ought to be observ'd, whereby it's agreed that whatever Prizes are taken at Sea shall be try'd at such Places from whence the Captors had receiv'd their Commissions; and to declare to your Lordships, that his Majesty expects the said Captain *Bogart* shall enjoy his Prize, pursuant to an Arrest of the Council-Royal for the Marine of *France*, signified to the States of *Zealand*; unless the Parties concern'd in the said Prize chuse rather to show in *France* the Reasons they have for reclaiming the Vessel and its Freight. In which Case his Majesty will not only take Care that due Justice be done to all Parties, but will also punish the Privateer, if what your Lordships have alledged against him appears to be true; and that otherwise his Majesty will not only have great Reason to think all the Reasons alledged for the Reclamation insufficient, but the Admiralties of *France* will have a Right to try all the Prizes the *Dutch* Privateers are continually bringing into *Rochelle*, and the other Ports of the Kingdom. At the same time his Majesty has given the said Ambassador express Order to renew to your Lordships the Instances he made heretofore for the Restitution of a Ship call'd the *Orange-Tree*, belonging to one of his Subjects, taken by a *Zealand* Privateer and carry'd in thither, and where, tho' his Majesty's Pass-Port was produced, it was condemn'd in the same Manner as if no such Pass-port had appear'd, and as if it had been an Enemy to the State, Whereupon the said Ambassador

• fador beſerches your Lordſhips to conſider ſeriouſly
 • the Satisfaction his Maſteſty ſo juſtly requires, and
 • has ſet his Heart ſo much upon. Dated at the *Hague*,
Jan. 26, 1667.

*From the Count D'Eſtrades to Monsieur
 de Lionne: January 27, 1667.*

I Have receiv'd yours of the 21st Inſtant: You will ſee by my laſt what paſſ'd in the Conference between *Monsieur de Ruyter* and my ſelf, touching the ſafe return of his Maſteſty's Fleet into the Ports of *France* at the end of the Campaign, to which I have nothing to add further.

Mr. de Wit is highly pleas'd with what you told the Reſident of *Sweden*, touching the Nomination of the neutral Places for the Treaty of Peace. I look on this Expedient as more honourable for the King, and his Allies, and think the firſt wou'd have been too advantageous to the King of *England*. *Mr. de Wit* was likewiſe pleas'd when he underſtood the King approv'd of *Leige*.

He deſired Copies of our Letters on that Subject, that he might let the Province of *Holland* ſee the Endeavours he us'd to bring the King to that Agreement. He deſired I wou'd inſert in thoſe Copies, how ſurpris'd the King was to obſerve the Admiralties grew ſlack in their Naval Preparations, as if the Peace was certain; and that his Maſteſty had given me in Charge to repreſent to 'em, that it was requiſite to act with more Vigour in this Conjunction, if we wou'd obtain more advantageous Conditions: He has likewiſe deſir'd me to add one Article more, wherein you acquaint me from his Maſteſty, that he thinks the Provinces are too tardy in ſatiſfying the King of *Denmark's* Demands; and that it is not ſufficient for the Execution of a Treaty, in which the King is
 Guarantee,

Guarantee, to say *Holland* has paid its Proportion: that after a Treaty concluded with the States-General, his Majesty never thought it necessary to treat a-new with each particular Province, to bring 'em to an Execution of that Treaty: That the Allies wou'd be apt to make such Resolutions thereupon as might be of dangerous Consequence to the States; and that you had order'd me to discourse this seriously with Mr. *de Wit*, that he might acquaint his Masters with it.

Now since all these Articles regard the Welfare of the State and his Majesty's Service, and the better to establish Mr. *de Wit*'s Credit, I prepar'd the Copy of a Letter in the foremention'd Terms, and gave it him to communicate to the States, that he might press 'em to the Satisfaction of the King of *Denmark*'s Demands. You will observe, Sir, that no manner of Inconvenience can arise from such a Copy; and give me leave to add, that it will be a difficult Task to manage these People without such sort of Expedients. However, if you don't approve of it, I'll excuse my self to Mr. *de Wit* for the future. Upon the Thoughts you have concerning the 4000 Men the *Swedes* are obliged to send the King of *England*, I inform'd him that his Majesty thought such a Supply wou'd be no way prejudicial to the States, provided the *Swedes* wou'd agreed to the Act of Neutrality demanded of 'em. He reply'd, that he expected Mr. *d'Isbrand* in a few Days; that it was difficult to come to any Conclusion upon that Affair, without conferring first with him; that however he wou'd tell me his Opinion before-hand, which was, that he thought his Masters wou'd never leave the *Swedes* at Liberty to send the *English* those Succours, since under that Pretence they might be able to seize on the Quarters in *East-Friesland*, or in the Country of *Holftein*, and so being supported by their Army, they might in Concert with the King of *England* begin a War against the *Dutch* on their own Frontiers; but that the Consequence wou'd be the less to be dreaded, if in forming the

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An Act of Neutrality, an explanatory Clause was added, setting forth, that if it should happen that the *Swedes* should be obliged to furnish the foremention'd Supply of 4000 Men, they were not to be employ'd any where but in *England*.

If it be necessary for *Mr. de Pomponne* to be acquainted with any thing of this Affair at *Mr. d'Isband's* Return, I shall take Care to impart it to him. *Monsieur le Chevalier de Terlon* has sent me Word, that he has receiv'd my Dispatch, with the Copy of *Mr. de Rouvigny's* Letter, which he has communicated to the King of *Denmark*, who was highly pleas'd with the Orders the King had given me of sending him a Duplicate, to inform him of what has pass'd in this Negotiation. I herewith send you a Copy of the last Memorial I presented to the States concerning the *White-Falcon*, and the *Orange-Tree*, wherein they are so slow in doing us Justice. I shall nevertheless continue my Instances to the Admiralty, tho' I confess I'm sorry to see 'em so stiff in that Affair. I am, &c.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades.*

I Know not if the King of *Sweden* be inclinable to enter into the Quadruple Alliance, but this I know, that the King doth all he can to induce him to it; and between you and me, his Majesty in that Case wou'd enter into it himself, as being the only Means to exclude the House of *Austria*; tho' this can't be effected, unless the *Swedes* become Members in it; and now you have a Secret, of which I desire you not to mention a Syllable to any Soul living. However you may conclude from hence, what an agreeable Service you will do his Majesty, if at the Count *de Dolma's* Arrival, you make the Business succeed. I have acquainted *Mr. de Pomponne* by my Letters

Letters this Post, how the States have invited the King of *Sweden* into it, to which he has return'd no Answer; but that Peoples Minds being since become something sour, it will be no easy Matter to induce the States to give him another Invitation, and that my Opinion is, that if the *Swedes* will agree heartily to it, and enter into the Alliance, they ought not to consider it as a new Motion, but that the Count *de Dohna* being upon the Place shoud be instructed to declare, that the King his Master, has taken the Invitation made in good part, and that he is ready to enter into the Alliance.

We ought in good earnest to make Provision for the War. I see nothing on the other side but Amusements and Shufflings, and I wish it mayn't prove worse in the Issue. In my Opinion, *L'Isle's* Business is to imbroid the *English*; and the Earl of *St. Albans* is not yet on his Departure, but puts the Queen his Mistress off from Week to Week, making no other excuse but that her Majesty's Affairs detain him, and that he is unwilling to set out 'till they are finished.

Memorial presented by the Count d' Estrades, to the States-General of the United Province: January 31, 1667.

THE Count d' Estrades, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, represents to your Lordships, that the King his Master being in great want of the 157 Lasts of Pitch, which he the said Ambassador demanded of your Lordships in his Majesty's Name, by his Memorial the 24th Instant, the King has commanded him to Repeat the same Instances to your Lordships, and to desire you wou'd be pleas'd to give leave, that the same may be transported from *Amsterdam* into *France*, on the Ship the *St. Francis*, and

• that with as much Diligence as is possible : And since
 • all the Admiralties, to whom the said Memorial was
 • referr'd, have had time enough to return their respec-
 • tive Answers, and that the said Ambassador has been
 • particularly inform'd, that the Admiralty of *Amster-*
 • *dam*, which is the most considerable, and is the near-
 • est concern'd, have made a favourable Report to your
 • Lordships thereupon, after having examin'd into the
 • Quantity lying in the Merchants Hands in that City,
 • at the *Texel*, and what is expected from *Hamburg*,
 • without reckoning the Stores in the other Admiralties,
 • and that the Quantity the King demands can be no
 • Prejudice to the State, tho' 'tis what his Majesty has
 • an urgent Occasion for, he beseeches your Lordships
 • to come to a speedy Resolution to the mutual Satis-
 • faction of his Majesty and your Lordships, to the
 • end he may give a speedy Account of his Success
 • therein. Dated at *Hague*, January 31, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

*From the King of Great Britain to their
 High Mightinesses, the States-General of
 the United Provinces : January 31, 1667.*

High and Mighty Lords,

HAVING receiv'd yours of the 13th Instant by the
 Hands of the Ambassadors Extraordinary of
Sweden, in which you again press us to agree to the
 Nomination of some Place, where the Ministers of
 the several Powers concern'd in the present War may
 commodiously meet to treat of Peace, declaring far-
 ther, that for your own Parts you wou'd have been
 willing to have sent your Ambassadors even into
England for that purpose; and the said Ambassadors
 having confirm'd us in the Opinion we had of the Sin-
 cerity

cerity of your desires for a Peace, beseeching us to consent to this your Request, as the only Means to attain so good and Christian an End. Now to manifest the real Inclination we have of uniting our selves more firmly with you in settling the Peace of Christendom, and for the Advancement of the Protestant Religion: We have not only consented to treat in such Place where the Ministers of your Allies may appear with most Honour and Safety, but to lay the Foundations of a mutual Confidence for the future, and prevent the Delays and Obstructions that may arise from the Nomination of any other Place, we are resolv'd to send our Ambassadors to the *Hague*, where the Ministers of your Allies are at present, or can be very speedily, there to treat of a Peace so much desired on all Hands: And provided we receive a Passport for our Ambassadors within a seasonable Time, they shall be at the *Hague* before the end of *February*; assuring you, that we desire nothing more earnestly than the Repose of Christendom, and that our Subjects may enjoy respectively the Benefit of it to their mutual Satisfaction: To which we beseech God to incline your Hearts, and to take you, High and Mighty Lords, into his Holy Protection. From our Court at *Whitehall*, ^{January 31,} ~~February 10,~~ 1667.

Your good Friend,

Sign'd, CHARLES R.

And below,

Arlington?

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: February 4, 1667.

THE King has approv'd of your giving Monsieur de Wit the Copy of the Letter he desir'd of you, to let his Province see his Majesty's Orders to you

concerning the Place of Treaty, and that the King had agreed to the City of *Liege*. He likewise approves of the Additions you have made at Monsieur *de Wit's* request to stir up the *United-Provinces* to forward their Naval Provisions against the next Campaign, without listning to the fallacious hopes the *English* give 'em of their Inclinations to a Peace, whose chief Design is to betray us into a Remissness, and make us neglect our warlike Preparations. 'Tis thought the Earl of *St. Albans* has no design to begin his Journey, and I perceive nothing proves a greater Disappointment to the Enemy, than to find that the King is not led into the Snare, but that they are as industrious in their Armaments at *Brest*, as if the War was never to be at an end.

The King conceives two natural Consequences are to be drawn from this delay in the Earl of *St. Albans*; one is, that the *English* won't forward the Peace with that Expedition their Necessities seem to require, so full are they in their Hopes of a Union with the House of *Austria*, which *l'Isola*, who is plying all his Intregues at *London*, has represented as infallible; the other is, that they have no thoughts of treating in the Queen Mother of *England's* Palace, since the Earl of *St. Albans* never writ to *Rouvigny*, to gain time in the Negotiation, that the Powers ought to be sent from the *Hague* and *Copenhagen*.

His Majesty is also very well pleas'd with the Additions you made in the Copy deliver'd to Monsieur *de Wit*, concerning the Assistance to be given the King of *Denmark* to enable him to Man out his Fleet in good time, and perswade him if possible to join it with the other two; and in a word I am to tell you, that you are permitted to take the same Liberty whenever you conceive the Additions demanded of you are for his Majesty's Service, or agreeable to your Instructions, and that no ill Effect can arise from 'em; all which will depend upon your Prudence, to which his Majesty refers himself, and in which he has an entire Confidence.

As to what relates to the 4000 Men, which the *Swedes* are to be allow'd by Vertue of their Treaty to send the *English*, provided they sign the Nutrality demanded by the States; his Majesty thinks Monsieur *de Wit*'s Construction thereupon very prudent, and that these Men must be allow'd to be sent no where, but into *England* it self, which will remove the Pretext that Crown will otherwise have of taking Quarters either in *East-Friezland*, or *Holstein*, and be thereby enabl'd to War underhand with *Denmark*, or the States; besides, the King thinks the States will act very prudently if they wait for Monsieur *d'Isbrand*'s Arrival, before they proceed to any Resolution on that Affair.

Memorial presented by the Count D'Estades to the States-General of the United-Provinces: February 9, 1667.

THE Count *d'Estades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, has receiv'd Orders from the King his Master to acquaint your Lordships, that his Majesty being intent upon putting his Squadron, which is to be commanded by the *Sieur de la Roche Gasteliere*, in a Condition of acting with all convenient speed, has order'd some Wine to be loaden on Board a Fireship bound for the *Texel*, or *Amsterdam*, directly for the use of the said Squadron, as also some Provisions on Board the *Chevalier de Bonillon*'s Ship, which are design'd for the same purposes; with which his Majesty thought fit to acquaint your Lordships, and expects you will be pleas'd to send your Orders to your Collectors of the 50 Sols *per Tonn*, and the Officers that inspect the Provisions, that they demand no Duty upon the said Vessels, either inwards or outwards, since all Vessels belonging to Squadrons, be they Men of War,

• Fireships or Gallies, are exempt from all Customs, and
 • his Majesty has observ'd the same Method in regard
 • to your Lordships; and as for his Majesty's Victual-
 • lers, they ought to have the same Usage with those that
 • belong to the Subjects of the States, who pay no Cu-
 • stom but for such Provisions as are landed and housed,
 • and are not design'd to be spent at Sea: Besides, were
 • the said Provisions imported by Merchant-men, who
 • indeed are subject to such Duties, and not on Board
 • Men of War who were always excused, his Majesty
 • wou'd not have the least Pretension to the Exemption
 • he now demands from your Lordships. To this the
 • said Ambassador Extraordinary desires a ready Con-
 • currence. Dated at the *Hague*, Febr. 9, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

*From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur
 de Lionne: Febr. 10. 1667.*

HOWever the Copy of this Letter has given Mon-
 sieur *de Wit* and me an Opportunity of pro-
 moting our Affairs in the Assembly, and we have dealt
 very well with those troublesome Magistrates of *Rot-
 terdam*, whose Ring-Leaders are in *Kivit* and *Vander
 Horst's* Interest, and are influenced by *Don Esteven de
 Gamarre*, who left no Stone unturn'd in the Assembly
 to perswade the Deputies of the Towns, that the
 King's main design was to entangle 'em in a War with
England, and thereby give him an Opportunity of
 conquering *Flanders*, and when that was done, subdue
 the *Dutch* themselves, upon a pretence that all be-
 long'd to his Majesty in right of the Queen.

He likewise put it into their Heads, that the best
 way to prevent an Invasion was to enter into a de-
 fensive League with *England*, at which the States
 ought

ought to take no manner of Umbrage, since all Sovereign Powers had a right of making Leagues defensive, for the Security of their respective Countries, and that without any Infringement of the Treaties of Alliance.

I have had a long Conference with Monsieur *de Wit* upon this Subject; he agrees with me, that it will be no difficult matter to defeat all his Artifices, by the dint of Reason, grounded upon the Assurance he and the States have of his Majesty's Sincerity in all his Proceedings; but that the Assembly being composed of so many Persons drawn out of each Town, there is no good to be got out of them without much Time and Application; that he wou'd endeavour on his Part, as I am to do on mine, to open their Eyes, and make 'em see, that the *Spanish* Cabal feeds 'em with nothing but *Chimeras*, on purpose to throw 'em upon wrong Measures; and I told Monsieur *de Wit*, that to prove what we had to say on that score, we need only enumerate what the King has done for the States since the Rupture with *England*, and the Bishop of *Munster*, which I was the more willing to touch upon, to refresh Monsieur *de Wit*'s Memory with the Obligations the States lye under to the King.

Monsieur *de Wit* has had a Conference with the Deputies for Secret Affairs, upon the Discourse we had together touching the 4000 Men; he told me the Deputies were of a contrary Opinion, and that they never would be brought to Consent to let the *Swedes* have the Liberty of sending those Succours into *England*; and when I told him, that this was pushing the thing too far, and that without some Expedient, it would be impossible to come to any Agreement with that Crown; he reply'd, he found a great many Difficulties in that Affair, and the States ev'ry Day met with new grounds of Jealousie from the *Swedes*; that he was moreover assur'd, that if they had enter'd into the League before the Ratifications had been exchanged,

chang'd, they would have embarras'd the States, and perhaps have hinder'd some Princes in the League from executing the Articles of the Treaty, when it should be required of 'em.

I told him, I found his Discourse full of Suspensions, without any Proof of the ill Intentions of the *Swedes*; that if he and the States persisted in that Opinion, I cou'd not perceive what good the Embassy from *Sweden* was like to produce; and I have thought since, that my Business was to make use of the Lights he had given me, and learn his real Sentiments my self concerning the *Swedes* entring into the Treaty of this new League.

I told him farther, that I thought some Expedient was of necessity to be found out to set the *Swedes* right, without insisting upon a Form that wou'd wound their Honour; but that I was of Opinion, the States wou'd find their Account more effectually in respect to the Neutrality, by taking their Measures with the King; that a Thought came into my Head since our last Conference, which was, that if the King endeavour'd to bring the Crown of *Sweden* into the League, and to remove all the Jealousies the *Swedish* Conduct may have given them, suppose he himself enter'd into it, this wou'd be a sufficient Security to the States, since if the *Swedes* had any design to Play false, they wou'd not dare to do it, in a Case where the King was a Party, and this was the ready way to establish a mutual Confidence between 'em.

He reply'd, that this wou'd never do, and that whilst the Treaty was a-foot, Monsieur *Van Beuningen* had made the King that Offer, and he had refused it, but he allow'd my Thought to be good in case the King wou'd enter into it; that his Majesty's Guarantee ought to be added in due Form, to oblige the *Swedes* to a Neutrality during the War with *England*, instead of the A^ct desired by the States.

I told him, that this being a Conversation between us two, and a Subject upon which I had no Instructions

tions to enter, I cou'd not mention it to you, but as his Expedient, and upon his Request, in order to know his Majesty's Thoughts upon it.

He gave me leave to do it in that manner, provided I acquainted you at the same time, that it was no other than a private Conversation between us two, and that he wou'd not answer for the Success of it when it came to be laid before his Masters; since his Advice was not always follow'd, as in the Case of the 4000 *Swedes* to be sent into *England*. This is the sum of all that has pass'd between us on this subject, and I shall wait for your Orders thereupon. Monsieur *de Wit* is entirely of your Opinion, that we ought to be preparing for the War, and he is inform'd, 'tis he that has retarded the Earl of *St. Albans* Departure; and when the Mediators acquainted the King of *England* with the Contents of the States Letter, his Majesty reply'd it was very well, and that he wou'd return an Answer to it in a few Days. This is a plain Proof that his Business is to amuse us, and gain farther time: For which Reason Monsieur *de Wit* is for equipping the Fleet with all Diligence, and is glad to find they are working with so much Application at *Brest*.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : Febr. 11, 1667.*

THE King is afraid we shall suffer much in the next Campaign from the Delays of the States in satisfying the King of *Denmark*, without which he will never be perswaded to join his Fleet with ours; his Majesty is likewise apprehensive, that the States are deluded by the false Pretensions of the *English* in Relation to the Peace, which will make 'em retard their Armaments so long, 'till the Enemy will have time to put out and be so strong at Sea, as to be able to prevent

vent our joining; his Majesty has not been wanting on his Part, either in Labour or Expence, to the Equip-ment of his Fleet, and the addition of Ships. Of this I spoke in plain Terms to Monsieur *Van Bunningen*, who has promis'd to write to the same purpose from hence.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: Febr. 14, 1667.

Monsieur *de Wit* having been to visit me twice since the last Post, I think my self obliged to give you an exact Account of what pass'd between us. He express'd a great deal of Uneasiness from the Jealousies he observ'd People had of the King's Design of attacking *Flanders*. He thought it impossible to quiet their Minds, or to perswade 'em into any manner of Security, so long as they had so powerful a Neighbour at their Doors, who in his Queen's Right, in Case the King of *Spain* shou'd die, had a strong Pretension to the *United Provinces*; this made him think more than once, that an Execution of the Project concerted some time since wou'd remove all their Jealousies, and be advantageous both to the King and the States; which Project yielding to the King *Cambray*, *St. Omer*, *Aire*, *Bruges* and *Damne*, they might upon the King of *Spain*'s Deaths join in a Manifesto, and declare to the *Flemish* States, that in Case they wou'd erect themselves into a Republick, the King and the States wou'd assist 'em with their Troops to oblige the Towns that oppos'd it, and if the *Flemings* refus'd that Offer, then the King, the States and their Allies, might conquer the Country with their United Forces.

That a Treaty of this Nature wou'd be very advantageous on the King's side, since it's better to gain, than suppress a popular State, whose Resolutions are
very

very wavering in a Situation, where their Interest obliges 'em to perform their Engagements without any Restraint, as in the Case above-mention'd, which must be insinuated among the Towns, by us, and the Friends we two still have in those Parts; that this wou'd be an infallible Expedient upon Occasion, whereas if upon the King of *Spain's* Death, his Majesty shou'd Claim in right of the Queen, the Emperor wou'd oppose it by Vertue of the deceas'd Monarch's Will, which wou'd intitle him to the Succession, and corroborate the Renunciation made at the Contract, under which pretence he wou'd by the Assistance of his Allies raise a powerful Army to support his Pretensions, and begin a War, of which perhaps none of us might live to see the Conclusion; it wou'd be then too late for any one to think of drawing the *United Provinces* into the Quarrel, all they will have to do will be to act a neutral Part; and who knows but the Umbrage they may conceive at the King's Conquests will incline 'em to declare for the Emperor, as having the justest Title, both from the King of *Spain's* Will, and his Majesty's Renunciation.

That having thoroughly weigh'd the fore-mention'd particulars, and being as zealous for the King's Service as that of his Masters, he open'd his Heart to me; adding, that if he had the Honour to be in the King's Ministry, he wou'd advise him not to slip an Opportunity of preventing a War, whose Events wou'd be uncertain, and to make sure of *Flanders*, which wou'd never be able to hurt him, and of which he might be always Master if it was form'd into a Common-wealth, and he wou'd at the same time remove from the *United Provinces* those Jealousies, which they wou'd be sure to retain, so long as they thought he had a design of making himself Master of the *Low-Countries*.

I told

I told him I was much surpriz'd to observe from his Discourse, that the People of the *United Provinces* shou'd entertain such Distrusts of his Majesty, after all those Proofs he had given 'em of his Friendship and Protection, and of which he himself was so good a Witness; that if his Majesty had no greater a Regard to their Interests than his own, I shou'd have great reason to fear least the King being justly provoked by such Instances of their Ingratitude, wou'd renounce their Alliance, and enter into other measures.

That I cou'd not but condemn the Jealousies of his Country-men, especially since the King had all along given 'em so much Reason to depend upon him; and as to the Particulars of the fore-mentioned Project, I had no other Answer to make to it, only that I wou'd give his Majesty an Account of it, having receiv'd no Instructions to enter into a Treaty upon things of that Nature.

Be pleas'd, Sir, to let me know the King's Pleasure; and as his Majesty is the best Judge of his own Interests, I shall expect from you the Answer I am to make to Monsieur *de Wit*, who will not fail to dunne me for it, as he does every Day for the Resolutions taken about the joining of Fleets, and striking the Flag.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: Febr. 17, 1667.

I Am continually pressing the Province of *Holland* to pay the Proportions due from the other Provinces to the King of *Denmark*, that his Fleet may be in a Condition to put to Sea, and join ours, and all Means are used with the Town-Deputies to come to that Resolution. Monsieur *Amerongen* will not set out for *Copenhagen* without some Remittances. I have not receiv'd

reciv'd any Letters from Monsieur *Pompone*, or the Chevalier *Terlon*, these four Posts, which I attribute to the hard Weather.

I have communicated to Monsieur *de Wit* the Article in which he is concern'd; his Answer was, that he was upon Terms bad enough with *Don Esteven de Gamarre*, and *Castel Roderigo*, to incline him to believe it all of their doing; and that he cou'd assure me, that whenever a defensive League was mention'd to him, either by themselves in Person, or Envoys employ'd for that purpose, he always rejected it, and assur'd 'em the States wou'd never Consent to it; he told me in Conclusion, that his last Conference with me might convince me, that he was of a contrary Opinion, since his chief Aim was to hinder the Umbrage the People had conceiv'd at the King's Greatness, from destroying the Friendship and Intelligence there was between his Majesty and the States, which however wou'd be much aggravated if he attack'd *Flanders*.

He desired me to tell you as a Secret, having discover'd it to no Person whatsoever here, nor so much as mention'd it in any Letter to Monsieur *Van Benningen*, what a Friend of his, who corresponds with *l'Isola* in *England*, had been inform'd from him, that the King of *Great Britain* wou'd return no Answer to the States Letter, 'till the meeting of the Parliament; but to return their Civility he design'd to name the *Hague* for the Place of Treaty.

The said *de Wit* told me, he wou'd use all his Interest to hinder that Proposition from taking place, since it was likely to create great Disturbances in the Towns, who were for the most part inclin'd to favour it; that he cou'd not act openly in this Affair, but wou'd do all he cou'd Underhand to oppose it, and that he thought the readiest way to effect it was, that in case the *Swedish* Ministers propos'd it to the King, it wou'd be proper for his Majesty to answer, he cou'd not think the King of *England* in earnest in that Proposition, since he can't but know his naming the
Hague,

Hague, after having refus'd the Queen-Mother's Palace at *Paris*, must be ill-taken by her Majesty, and by that means putting it in his Power to refuse the *Hague*, it must be with a Design to give an Umbrage to the States, as if he had no mind to treat of a Peace in any Place under their Jurisdiction; for which reason his Majesty must desire the *Swedish* Minister to wave that Proposition, and that some other Place might be agreed upon. Monsieur *de Wit* press'd me very earnestly to assure you, that it is of the greatest Importance to him to have it thought this Discourse did not begin from him, and to have it kept secret, that he may be the better able to nip this Proposition in its Bud.

Monsieur *d'Appelboom* told him, that the King of *England* has accepted of *l'Isola*, as the Emperor's Mediator for the Peace, and would have him sound the States to know if they would not accept of him in like manner. Monsieur *de Wit* told him, his Masters would act in Conformity with his Majesty and the King of *Denmark*, and that before any Motion was made to the States, it was necessary to know if the King would accept of the Emperor's Mediation, which for a great many reasons he thought he would not.

If the King has any thoughts of sending a Minister to the Dukes of *Brunswick*, I beseech you, Sir, to propose my Son, the *Abbi*, to his Majesty. I can give you my Word he is a Person of a Capacity equal to such an Employment, and one, who I hope will not disgrace your Recommendation; besides, give me leave to tell you, no one is in greater Credit with the Elder of those Princes than my self, he has upon all Occasions express'd a great Confidence and Friendship towards me, which will be of great help to my Son in his Negotiation, if it be for his Majesty's Interest at this Conjunction to send an acceptable Person to that Prince.

I suppose you have already heard that those Princes are enter'd into a new League with the Electors of *Brandenburg*, and *Madam the Landgravine of Hesse*,
for

for their common Defence, and that they are to maintain among 'em 13000 Men of the best Troops, as I am inform'd, in all Germany.

It is of the utmost Importance not to have the Peace treated at the *Hague*, where the *English* and *Spanish* Factions will in all likelihood prove too powerful for Monsieur de Wit, and be strong enough to make the States agree to what they please.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: February 18, 1667.

BEFORE I give you an Account of the Earl of St. Albans Arrival, give me leave to say a word or two in Relation to yours of the 10th Instant. The King is extremely pleas'd with the Measures you have been taking with Monsieur de Wit to remove the false Impressions the *Spanish* Ministers have been continually instilling into the Peoples Minds, as well in regard of the Sincerity of his Majesty's Conduct, which will grow more apparent every Day in spite of all the Artifices of his Enemies to the contrary, as of his vast Designs, which is a *Chimera*, that must infallibly give way to the more substantial Instances of his Moderation.

His Majesty is no less pleas'd to hear, that the Admiralty of *Amsterdam* have set 500 Men at Work to refit their Ships, but he would be better pleas'd if he saw 'em in a way of paying the King of *Denmark*, that he may be enabled to equip his Fleet, and join it with ours.

The King approves the Proposition you have made of his entering with the King of *Sweden* into the Quadruple Alliance, and you may act conformable to it at the Count de *Dohna*'s Arrival; and you will do well, if you can have his Majesty's Guarantee added for the *Swedish* Neutrality during the present War, instead of
the

the Act demanded by the States, for in that case the King will take care to have a sufficient Security from the *Swedes* to oblige 'em to a Conformity.

When we can more plainly discover, that the Earl of *St. Albans* Instructions are not full as to the Peace, of which the King begins to be more in hopes, seeing at least the King of *England* begins to explain himself, his Majesty will let you know his last Resolution concerning the Junction and the Flag. In the mean time, Monsieur *de Wit*'s Reflection, as to the Augmentation the *English* are making in their Fleet, seems to me not to deserve an Answer: He is too understanding a Man not to make it to himself, and what can be said to a Prince, who this Year continues to disburse immense Sums upon the Equipment of 60 Ships, for the pure Interest of the States, and to keep his Word with them. I will speak once more with Monsieur *Van Benningen*, concerning Prince *Maurice*'s Embassie to *Vienna*. Monsieur *de Wit*'s Answer upon that subject is by no means satisfactory.

The Truce with *Portugal* is not yet concluded, and tho' it were, you may assure Monsieur *de Wit* it never did, and never will enter into his Majesty's Thoughts, to send either 30, or the least Number of Ships thither. I may tell you farther, that not above a Month ago the King refus'd the Duke of *Savoy*, tho' he begg'd in the most pressing Terms in the World for one Ship to transport his Ambassador to *Lisbon*. His Majesty won't lessen his Fleet of one Vessel so long as the War lasts, and of this Monsieur *de Wit* may be firmly assur'd.

The Earl of *St. Albans* arriv'd at *Paris* four Days ago; Monsieur *Rouviigny* paid him a Visit immediately as his intimate Friend, with a Design, as he since told us, to get what he could out of him, and impart it to the King. There was nothing however to be got out of him, but that according to his own Confession his Power was so limited, that if the Proposition he had to make to the King, or such of his Ministers, as should be

be empower'd by his Majesty to receive it; was not immediately accepted, his Instructions were to say not one word more, nor to act in any Respect as the King of *England's* Minister, but confine himself to the Queen his Mistress's Service; a Prologue indeed not very uncommon; it puts me in Mind of the *Roman* Senators menace to a King, whom he had inclos'd in a Circle, and charg'd him not to stir out of it 'till he had given him his Answer.

However the King, that he might get as much as he could out of the Earl, fail'd not to send me to him the next Morning, which was *Friday* last, and I was in Conference with him in an Apartment of the Queen of *England's* Palace at *Paris*, for almost three Hours, and return'd hither in the Afternoon to give the King an Account of what had pass'd between us.

What he told me of the Proposition was, that upon Monsieur de *Rouvigny's* Letter of the 24th of *November*, the King his Master accepted of the Overture contain'd in it; that is, that all things should continue in the same Condition the Fortune of the War had left 'em; that the States should observe the Treaty of 1654, and that they should send their Ambassador into *England* to regulate and settle the Trade; with this proviso however, and no otherwise, that the King should restore every thing in *America* to the same Condition it was in before the War; that is in plain Terms his Majesty must yield up to the *English* the Island of *St. Christophers*, and the three other Islands his Armies have taken from 'em.

As his Majesty had foreseen that such a Proposition was like to be made, tending, according to their Custom, to breed a Division in the Alliance, by giving up to *Holland* all her Demands, and treating us after a more unequal manner, his Majesty had given me in charge what Answer I should return in case such a Proposition was made.

I therefore reply'd, that I at first look'd on him as an Angel of Peace; but found in truth he was sent to

declare a Continuation of the War; since I was well inform'd of his Majesty's Intentions, upon a Subject that had been so often in debate, to be able to assure him the King would never consent to terms of that Nature, which manifestly contradicted the Proposition that had been made, and whereby it appear'd, that the King of *England* thought of keeping all he had conquer'd, but propos'd at the same time, contrary to the Tenour of the same Proposition, that what he had lost should be restor'd to him, which was in effect to make *France* the only loser, wherein his Majesty's Honour was concern'd, so that this was not only an Injustice, but Affront. In short, I left him no manner of room to hope, the King would yield in the least point, concluding, that tho' they had been three Months a contriving at *London*, what measures were proper to create a Division between us, by offering our Allies all their Demands, and refusing the same thing to his Majesty, yet his Majesty trusted so much to the States Honour and Gratitude, that he was certain they would never abandon him in a Cause so just. Tho' the Earl upon this Answer declar'd, that then his Commission was at an end, and that he would meddle no more in that Affair, I however drew him into a Discourse upon other Subjects, hoping by that means to get out of him the Intentions of the *English*, their Thoughts of the Peace, and of the Method of concluding it: This succeeded to my Wish, for in the first Place I perceiv'd the King of *Denmark* was not so much as nam'd in his Powers, which was a strong Argument of the unfair Designs of the *English*, and their continual Endeavours to divide us; whereupon I told him, that tho' the King my Master should yield up all was demanded of him in *America*, yet this would not make the Peace a bit the forwarder, and that no one could treat with him, 'till he had a Power of treating and concluding in like manner with the King of *Denmark*.

In the second Place, supposing every thing was agreed to by all Parties, I ask'd him what his Orders were as

to the Formalities of signing, and those of exchanging the Ratifications; he readily answer'd, that as to the first Point every one might sign in particular, and afterwards send the Articles sign'd to one-another; but when I told him this was never done, nor was it indeed possible to be done without falling into several Disputes and Inconveniencies, he then told me, he would be content to sign it with the rest at the Queen Mother's Palace, of which, he said, he had made no Difficulty, since, saith he, the signing the Articles of the Peace was not the Peace it self, but only an Assurance that there would be a Peace, which consisted in the Delivery of the Ratifications; and therefore, that was a thing he never could agree to do in the Queen of *England's* Palace, for that indeed would be to conclude the Peace in *France*. The *English* are out in this Point, for the Peace consists in the signing of the Treaty by Ministers sufficiently authoriz'd to that purpose, and the Exchange of the Ratifications gives it only its Perfection and Assurance; but it's none of our Business to undeceive 'em, and so let the thing go as they would have it.

As for the Exchange of the Ratifications, he knew not how to explain himself clearly upon that subject. I only told him, that immediately after the first signing Ambassadors might be sent to the respective Courts, there to receive the Ratifications.

I gave him to understand at the same time, that it was never known that Princes in War sent their Ambassadors to each others Courts before the Peace was ratify'd; that nevertheless, if we could but agree upon the Substance, we would not squabble about the Formalities, the King's Intention being to take no advantage of the *English* directly or indirectly in that particular.

After this I propos'd three Expedients as from my self, and told him, that which so ever pleas'd the King his Master, his Majesty would perswade his Allies to agree to it.

The First was, That the three Kings and the States-General should lodge their Ratifications in the Hands of the Queen Mother of *England*, who should at the same time deliver to each respective Minister that which belong'd to him.

The Second was, That all the Plenipotentiaries should meet in some Neutral Place, where the Exchange should be made by the *Swedish* Ministers as the Mediators.

The Third was, That upon a fix'd Day the King of *England* should send an Ambassador into *France*, and another into *Denmark*, and that the very same Day the King, and the King of *Denmark*, should dispatch theirs respectively for *England*.

And that another Day should be agreed upon, wherein each of the Kings should deliver his Ratification to the Ambassador arriv'd in his Court, that indeed as to this last Expedient, I thought my self oblig'd to observe to him, that I did not know what Difficulties it might meet with in respect to the States-General, since I could not tell, if the King of *England* would be pleas'd to send an Ambassador at the same time into *Holland*, (which would remove all manner of Obstacles) or if the States would be contented to have none sent at all, since they have agreed to send their Ambassador into *England* after the Signing of the Peace for the Regulation of Commerce, but it is not known if they will send on before the Ratifications are exchange'd, unless the King of *England* shall think fit to do the like.

This is the Substance of all that pass'd between us, and I understand since, that he has sent an Express into *England* with the Answer I return'd to the Proposition, and probably upon the Defect of his Power in regard to the King of *Denmark*, and about the Exchange of the Ratifications. Now since it is not impossible, but the King of *England* may be brought to recede from his Demands upon the Islands in *America*, and that he may send a new Power, wherein the King

of *Denmark* shall be comprised; the King is of Opinion, the States ought not to delay a Moment sending to Monsieur *Van Benningen* a Power in due Form, which we suppose here will be done upon one Word from you to Monsieur *de Wit*.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: February 21, 1667.

Monsieur *Puffendorf*, Secretary to the *Swedish* Embassy, has brought the King a Copy of the King of *Great Britain*'s Answer, to the last Letter from the States, wherein he has named the *Hague* as a Place fit for the Treaty, declaring that for his Part he is ready to send his Ambassadors thither, and that they may be there before the end of this Month.

The said Secretary deliver'd me at the same time an Extract of what the *Swedish* Ambassadors at *London* writ to him upon that subject, wherein they take notice of the chief Motives, that inclin'd the King of *Great Britain* to that Nomination, at least as he told them; for it's very plain they are not the true Reasons, and that this Proposition has something more mysterious in it.

The King order'd me to thank the Secretary for having communicated to him the Transactions at *London*, and to inform him, that his Majesty wou'd concert with his Allies what Answer ought to be given in common to the King of *England*'s Proposition, as being oblig'd by our Treaties to do nothing without common Concert between us; and that the same Method wou'd be observ'd in Relation to the Truce, mention'd in the particular Letter from the said *Swedish* Ambassadors.

However the King order'd me immediately to dispatch away this Courier to you, by the way of *Dunkirk*, to avoid the Designs the Marquis *de Castel Roderigo*

has upon our Couriers, whenever he thinks we have any thing of Importance upon the Anvil, and when he has any Hopes of being able to break the Measures we are taking.

The Business of this Courier is to let you know, that his Majesty desires to be inform'd without any loss of time, what the States Opinion is, as to the Nomination of the *Hague* for the Place of Treaty, that he may be the better able to judge what Answer ought to be given to the *Swedish* Secretary, to be by him communicated to his Master's Ambassadors.

In the mean time I must observe to you before-hand, that the King of *England* having so often, ever since the beginning of the War, insisted upon the States complying to treat at *London*, as a point of Honour due to him, and consenting now on a sudden to have the Treaty managed at the *Hague*, the ordinary Residence of the States, this sudden turn, I say, so contrary to his former Resolution, seems very suspicious to his Majesty, who can't but think the King of *England* is resolv'd if possible, let it cost what it will, tho' it be at the expence of his own Honour, to create a good Understanding between his Ministers, and those of the States, before the Conclusion of the Peace, and thereby withdraw, if he can, the States from the Interest of *France*, or at least enter into Measures with them against us at the signing of the Treaty; we are confirm'd in our first Suspicion, that the design of the *English* is to create a Division between us, from the Earl of *St. Albans* Proposition, which I sent you by the last Post, wherein you will observe, that their Agreement with the States is as good as finish'd, whilst that with *France* continues at a great distance, in case the King of *England* persists in demanding from us such Restitutions, which are directly contrary to the Tenour of the same Proposition, which imports, that all things shall continue in the same Condition, Heaven and the Chance of War shall leave 'em.

This

This may be consider'd in respect of *France*, but the King of *England* may be said to have farther Designs in this Nomination, and that more dangerous to the present Government of the States, as chiefly aiming at the Person of Monsieur *de Wit*. If *Downing* of himself, and almost without any Character, was able to raise such Divisions in the *United Provinces*, what may not the King of *England* promise himself from two or three Persons together qualified with the Character of Ambassadors, and thereby to lessen *de Wit*'s Credit, and restore the House of *Orange* at a time, when the general bent of the People is for a Peace, by craftily insinuating into 'em upon the least Difficulties, which they themselves shall underhand raise, that *de Wit* is the only Obstacle to it; in this they will meet with a ready Concurrence from all the Adherents of the House of *Orange*, whose Numbers are by no means Contemptible.

The King desires, that of your self, and without mentioning your receiving the least Intimation of it from hence, you wou'd represent all these Inconveniences to Monsieur *de Wit*; show him how much his Person and Credit is at Stake, and make him, if possible, so sensible of it, as to desire of his own accord to prevent so fatal a Conjunction, and in case you find him so much alarm'd, as I think in Prudence he ought to be, and you perceive him resolv'd, if possible, to avert the Stroke, then you may offer him the King's Protection, who will undertake to elude the Artifices of the *English*, in the Answer he is to return to their Proposition of the *Hague*, which Answer you may draw up between you, acquainting his Majesty as soon as possible with what you have done in it, and at the same time may assure Monsieur *de Wit*, that you are confident the King will readily agree to it, as well because it will be for Monsieur *de Wit*'s Service, as that it will arm his Majesty against those Consequences, with which the ill Dispositions of the *English* seem to threaten both the *Dutch* and us.

From the Count d'Estades to Monsieur
de Lionne: January 24, 1667.

I Receiv'd the Honour of yours of the 18th Instant, and had three Days warm Debates with some of the Deputies of the Towns, relating to the Conquests the King's Troops have made upon the *English* in *America*.

You will easily imagine, Sir, that this Demand of the King of *England* has been craftily handed into the Assembly of the Towns by his Emissaries, and the *Spanish* Cabal, as a thing without which he wou'd never agree to a Peace; and at the same time the People were made to believe that *France* was no ways inclin'd to it, but wou'd lay all imaginable Rubs in the way, and among others, that of retaining all it had Conquer'd, to which, however, his Majesty has no right as having been only an Auxiliary, that it's high time for the States to look about 'em, and close in with the *English*, in case they saw the *French* raising Difficulties on purpose to retard the Peace. As soon as I was inform'd of these Practices, I waited on the Deputies, and shew'd 'em the subtlety of these Discourses; I told 'em, I thought they were too clear-sighted not to see through the Artifices of the *English* and *Spaniards*, whose main Business was to divide us; that the Terms the States had from the beginning proposed, was for each Party to keep what they had got, which ought equally to be observ'd to all, and that a Distinction in this Case wou'd be highly injurious to the King, and no less dishonourable to the States, shou'd they ever consent to it. I desired 'em to reflect seriously upon it, and give those to understand who discours'd 'em about it, that their Opinion was, that the King ought to be left in Possession of those Islands. I waited on Monsieur de Wit twice upon the same Account, who told me, his Answer to the *Sieurs*
Friget

Friget and *Appleboom* was conformable to what I had been discoursing with the Deputies, that they might have no room to hope the King wou'd ever be induced to deliver 'em up; but that he found the Assembly unanimously of Opinion, that the King ought not to break off the Treaty upon that Account, after having several times told Monsieur *Van Benningen*, and even declar'd it before the first Conference in the Queen Mother's Palace at *Paris*, that his Majesty had no Pretensions of his own, and that if he had he wou'd give all up to the Peace; to this he added, that for his Part all those who discours'd him about it shou'd find him firmly of Opinion, that the King ought to retain the conquer'd Islands, but that if the *English* insisted upon their being restor'd, he did not see how it was possible to prevent the People from believing for Gospel, whatever had been instill'd into 'em by the contrary Parties, unless the King yielded in this point for the sake of the Peace.

I observ'd to Monsieur *de Wit*, as an Instance of the Artifices of the *English* and *Spaniards*, that before our Dispatch was arriv'd, Messieurs *Friget*, and *Richard* Secretary to the *Spanish* Ambassador, did all they cou'd to perswade the Towns of *Holland*, that the King wou'd make a difficulty of delivering the conquer'd Islands, on purpose to delay the Peace. The greatest Misfortune with these People is, that when you don't directly give into their Interests, they readily swallow all that is alledged against us, and are inclinable to desert us, as they did at the Peace of *Munster*. The States have order'd Mons. *Van Benningen* to speak to the King about this Affair, and to press him to the Restitution of the Islands, in case they find the King of *England* will not be driven from his Pretensions. You are able to see farther into these Affairs than I, and so are the best Judge of what the King is to do; whether he ought to retain the Islands and so prevent the Peace, or deliver 'em up to procure it.

They

They came to a Resolution Yesterday, of paying Monsieur *Klingenberg* four hundred thousand Livres for the King of *Denmark*'s Use immediately; and that two hundred thousand more, being the Remainder, shou'd be paid in four subsequent Payments; this was as much as they cou'd be brought to, and I assure you, Sir, 'tis better than I once expected. Monsieur *Klingenberg* has been to return me thanks for this Service, and told me at the same time, that the King his Master had commanded him to assure me, he wou'd leave the Choice of the Place to his Majesty; he has likewise signified the same to the States, which is a great Piece of Respect paid to his Majesty.

I have obtain'd from the States, by Vertue of the frequent Sollicitations I made to 'em in the King's Name, a Remittance of 9000 Livres towards the Building a Church, the Elector of *Cologne* has began in the Square at *Rhinberg*, which has been always refus'd 'till now, as having been violently opposed upon all Occasions by the Ministers in their Synod.

The Admiralties are continuing their Preparations, and yet I fear, notwithstanding all their Diligence, their Fleet will hardly be ready till towards the middle of *May*.

This Morning I sent a Copy of your Dispatch to Monsieur *Tarlon*, and at the same time advis'd him of the Payment of the 40000 Livres, which may enable the King of *Denmark* to forward his Fleet, so as to join it with that of the *Dutch*.

This Morning I deliver'd in a Memorial to the States, desiring leave to press such *French* Seamen into his Majesty's Service, as traded hither in Merchant-men.

I wish I was able to obtain all my Demands for the King's Service, and must assure you, that ev'ry Repulse or delay in things I know to be just and reasonable, gives me a deal of Vexation and Disquiet.

I beseech you, Sir, to believe no one is more rejoic'd than my self at the Favour the King has done you, in granting the Reversion of your Employments

to your Son; 'tis to be hoped, he will prove a worthy Successor of so excellent a Father, who has deserv'd so much by his long Experience and Extraordinary Services, and that the Instructions he receives from you, will one Day make him very capable of serving his Majesty.

The King of *England* has written a very civil Letter to the States, and nam'd the *Hague* for the Place of Treaty. Monsieur *de Wit* tells me, the States will return their Answer to-Morrow, in which they will thank him for the Honour he has done 'em in chusing a Place in their Territories, and since they have several other Places more proper for the Negotiation than the *Hague*, as *Mastrich* or *Breda*, they hope he will without any difficulty consent to one of them, and that they will write to their Allies for their Consent accordingly; this he tells me is to be the Substance of the States Answer.

When Monsieur *Dohna* arrives, my Conduct with him shall be conformable to the Instructions I have receiv'd, relating to the Quadruple Alliance; I am highly pleas'd to find the King has approv'd of my Behaviour hitherto in that Affair.

I understand it's discours'd in the Conversations at the *Hague*, that the *Spanish* Ambassador pretends to send his Coach to meet the Ambassador from *Sweden*, and to dispute the Place; and that thereupon some of the States, Friends and Partisans of *Spain*, shou'd say, the States wou'd desire the Ambassadors to send none of their Coaches to the Entry.

Upon this I went to Monsieur *de Wit* and told him, if the States made such a Request to me, I wou'd not give way to it, and if they gave me the least to understand they wou'd favour *Spain*, I was resolv'd to retire out of their Country, having first protested against the Injustice of their Procedure. Monsieur *de Wit* in Answer told me, he had not heard a Word of it, that it must be no other than a Discourse among private Persons; and that tho' some of the States might have

have a share in it, it wou'd come to nothing; that he was of Opinion, the States wou'd stand by the Declaration the *Spanish* Ambassador had made at *Paris* in the Presence of all the Ambassadors. Upon this thank'd him, and desired he wou'd take Care things might be order'd accordingly,

I find Monsieur de *Mailly* watches his Opportunity to persecute me in my Absence, and sues me upon the Sale of the Land of *Livoy*. I beseech you Sir, to use your Interest with the King, that my Cause may be recommended to the first President, and the Procureurs and Advocates General.

The States-General of the United-Provinces to the King of Great Britain :
February 24, 1667.

S I R,

WE receiv'd Yesterday from the Sieur *Appleboorn*, the King of *Sweden's* Minister Extraordinary to this Court, your Majesty's of the 31st of *January* last. And as it gives us room to hope a happy end will soon be put to this unfortunate War, that we may the better forward so good a Work, we think it our Duty to return our Answer without any loss of time.

Having therefore, in the first Place, thank'd your Majesty for the Honour you have done us, in giving us to understand, you are willing to have the Negotiations carry'd on in some Town within our Dominions, we must add, that we are ready to use all our Interest to perswade our Allies to accept of the same Motion, of which we hope your Majesty will soon be advertised from the Ambassadors Mediators at *Paris*, and we shall take Care on our part to give our Ministers residing in that Court the Orders necessary thereunto. And since your Majesty has been pleas'd to treat with

so much Condescension in this Particular, we hope you will be perswaded to send your Ministers to *Mastricht*, *Boisleduc* or *Breda*, that is to one of those three Places you shall like best, which will convince us of the Sincerity of your Majesty's Intentions; and the desire you have of seeing so good and Christian a work brought to a fair and happy Conclusion. We are of Opinion, the Places before mention'd are much more convenient and safe, as well in respect of their Situation, as of their respective Constitutions and Garrisons; whereas on the other side, the *Hague* is an open Place, and consequently the Ministers of such Kings and States, as are either engaged in the present War, or grown jealous of each other, cannot be secure from many unhappy and fatal Accidents, of which we have already had too many melancholy Instances, in defiance of the Government, and the Course of Justice; we hope God in his Mercy will avert such Misfortunes for the future, which must otherwise retard so necessary a Work, and that an honourable and speedy Peace, will so reconcile the Minds of the People on all Sides, and put an end to such dismal Apprehensions, that we may without fear, and with open Arms, receive your Majesty's Ambassadors here, and testify by the Mouth of our own in your Court, how sensible we are, and how much obliged to your Majesty for the readiness you have express'd in bringing so good a Work to a final Conclusion. We pray God to inspire your Majesty, and all others, concern'd, with Sentiments and Resolutions necessary to so good an End, and that whatever shall be concluded upon, may be confirm'd by so punctual an Observance, and faithful Execution, that we may have all imaginable reason to pray for the Prosperity of your Majesty's Person and Government, and subscribe our selves,

SIR, &c.

Hague, Febr. 24, 1667.

From

tion Monsieur *de Wit* proposes to be made between the King and the States in Relation to *Flanders*; and it being a matter of the greatest Consequence, I must defer the Answer 'till the next Post.

Monsieur *Van Beuningen* knows nothing yet of the Resolution the King has taken to propose *Dover*, I having not seen him since that Affair was settled. I only told him in general, that his Majesty wou'd never consent to have the Peace negotiated in any Town of the *United Provinces*, and that the King desired he wou'd write to his Masters earnestly upon that Subject. Neither have I mention'd it to Monsieur *Pompone*, nor the Chevalier *Terlon*; but you may if you please acquaint 'em with it, and send 'em moreover a Copy of his Majesty's Letter to the States, as soon as you have presented it, or rather at the same time you are going to present it, which ought to be done without one Moment's delay.

The same time the States notify this Resolution at *London*, 'twill be convenient for 'em to demand blank Pass-ports for the King of *Denmark's* Ambassadors, as likewise for their own, to the end all Parties concern'd may be setting forward for *Dover*.

*His most Christian Majesty's Letter to the
States-General of the United Provinces :
February 25, 1667.*

MOST Dear and High Friends, Allies, and Confederates. The *Sieur Puffendorf*, Secretary to the *Swedish* Embassy, having sent us a Copy of a Letter from the King of *Great Britain* to your High Mightinesses, dated the 31st of the last Month, wherein he consents, for several Reasons mention'd in the
said

said Letter, that the Peace be treated at the *Hague*; declaring that his Ambassadors shall be upon the Place before the end of this Month, provided you send him your Pass-ports accordingly: We are extremely pleas'd to find that God has put it in the Heart of the said King to contribute on his part to an Accommodation, of which, after so good an Advance made by him, we have a hopeful Prospect, and we think he can never be sufficiently admired for these Instances of his Concern for the Welfare of Christendom, and the late great and unprofitable effusion of Blood and Treasure; however, since 'tis Prudence in all great Affairs to prevent, if possible, whatever Inconveniences may reasonably be foreseen, we can't but conceive it very hazardous for a popular State engaged in War, to admit before the Conclusion of a Peace, under any pretext whatsoever, the Ministers of a Prince, its Enemy, especially when it's in Alliance with other Powers, whose respective Interests are to be consider'd in the same Negotiation. For whilst the Peace continues uncertain, the Presence and Conduct of those Ministers must certainly open the way to all sorts of Cabals, and serve only to raise Jealousies, and form Divisions among the People, who are often as liable to receive false Impressions as true ones, a Misfortune that never happens in Monarchical States, where all is regulated by the will of the Prince. For these, and several other Reasons, which the Count d' *Estrades*, our Ambassador Extraordinary, has in Charge to acquaint you with, we think it by no means requisite to Consent to have the Peace negotiated in any of your Towns; in which we have no other view than your proper and most essential Interest, which is become so interwoven with our own, that we think it impossible for the one to receive any Prejudice without the other's being sensibly affected with it. We hope you will consider these our Sentiments as proceeding from a Sincerity of Affection towards you, like that of a Father to his Children, whose

Interest he continually studies, and to live in a perpetual Union with them. Not that we wou'd insinuate or have it so much as thought, the King of *Great Britain* has any design to divide us, being on the contrary firmly perswaded that he Acts now, and will do the same in the Course of this Affair, with Honour and Integrity; but we have great reason to apprehend his Orders may not always be faithfully executed in the Progress of so important a Negotiation; and his Ambassadors may think it more for their Master's Service, to adhere sometimes with too much Complaisance to the Suggestions of such whose Interest it is to have the War continued. However, that a Work so necessary to all Christendom may not meet with one Moment's delay, but that all the World may see how zealous we are for the publick Tranquillity, and that we may correspond with an equal, nay greater Zeal than what the King of *Great Britain* has shown on this Occasion, inasmuch as he has condescended heretofore to send my Lord of *St. Albans* hither qualified with sufficient Powers to treat here, and since that has been pleas'd to name the *Hague* for the Place of Treaty, by which it appears, that he has waved all Punctilios of Honour; we declare that we are well pleas'd to have the Treaty at *Dover*, a Town in that Prince's Dominions, which is a Point he heretofore earnestly insisted upon, and with which you never cou'd comply whilst we opposed it; but so desirous are we of Peace, that we now give it up, and are contented to treat in *England*, whatever Advantages the King of *Great Britain* may receive thereby preferable to us and our Allies, as well in respect of the Neighbourhood of his Court, as that our Dispatches must be continually exposed to the hazards of the Seas: And tho' 'tis impossible for us, to know precisely the King of *Denmark's* Sentiments on this Matter, since being at so great a distance, he can't yet be inform'd of what has been doing, yet so well are we assured of his Inclinations for the Peace, that we

take

take it upon us to promise his Consent to all that has been proposed in this Letter. In the mean time, most Dear and High Friends, Allies, and Confederates, we pray God to take you into his most Holy Protection. Given at Versailles the 25th of Febr. 1667.

Your good Friend, Ally, and Confederato,

Sign'd LOUIS.

And below that De Lionne.

The Subscription was,

To our most Dear High Friends, Allies, and Confederates, the Lords States-General of the United Provinces.

The Answer of the Lords the States-General of the United Provinces to the most Christian King.

S I R,

THOSE Marks of Affection your Majesty has shown us, in your Letter of the 25th of February, oblige us to a sincere Acknowledgement of 'em, as well as of the great Inclination you have express'd to the Peace. As we never doubted of it, so these fresh Assurances from your Majesty, give a new Life to our Hopes; that this perfect unanimity in Sentiments among the Allies, will in good time produce the desired Effect, that is, an end of this expensive Unfortunate War. To this happy Concert with the Peace so necessary to all Christendom be owing, since it has open'd the King of Great Britain's Heart to the same Inclinations, without which 'tis impossible to bring this great Work to a Happy Conclusion. 'Tis wonderful to consider, that the King of Great Britain's Proposition of sending his Ambassadors to the Hague, shou'd produce the same

Sentiments both in your Majesty and Us; and that the same Reasons shou'd at the same time induce your Majesty to advise us to reject these Offers, and us to acquaint the King of *Great Britain*, that we cou'd by no means accept of 'em. This makes it visible to the whole World, that the Allies are so united together, that they seem animated by the same Soul, which makes us enter into your Majesty's Sentiments, and approve, without any Hesitation, your Majesty's Nomination of *Dover*, as your Majesty did ours of *Breda*, *Boissleduc*, or *Mastricht*; and since your Majesty is of Opinion that all Points of Honour are now waved, and that we are at present engaged in a Tryal of Civilities, we openly declare, that exclusive of the *Hague*, we are ready to dispatch our Ambassadors to whatever Place your Majesty and the King of *England* shall pitch upon, not excepting *London* it self, much less any other to which the Allies may send their Ministers with less Inconvenience; a greater Instance we believe we can't give of our Inclinations to the Peace; tho' we have given several others upon former Occasions, which we believe will justify us to all *Europe*; and we beseech your Majesty to accept in good part of this our Declaration, as likewise of our Prayers for all your Majesty's lawful Interests and Desires. We beseech God, &c.

S I R, &c.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: February 27, 1667.

I Yesterday receiv'd your Dispatch, and you will observe from my two last, how all things here go as the King wou'd have 'em. I have omitted nothing that cou'd make Monsieur de *Wis* sensible how much he was concern'd in his private Interest not to have the Treaty at the *Hague*; four Provinces, and several of the

the Towns in *Holland*, show'd their ill Inclinations towards him in this Conjunction, but we have at length surmounted all these Obstacles, and our Friends have defeated the Cabals of *Spain* and *England*. Monsieur *de Wit* and I have had another Conference upon the Subject of your last Dispatch. He thinks *Breda* the most convenient, as lying nearer both *France* and *England*, and consequently the least liable to the King of *England*'s Exceptions. He hopes his Majesty will have nothing to object against it, that so the States may be sensible of his hearty Inclinations to the Peace, and that their Mouths may be stop'd who are continually publishing the contrary, affirming the King will still raise new Obstacles to prevent it.

He has been again talking to me about the Restitution of the Islands in *America*, and my Answer was the same with that I mention'd in my former Dispatches, that we expected to have the same Terms with them; that each Party ought to keep what he held, and that the King wou'd never suffer himself to be treated worse than his Allies; and that I was of Opinion the States were concern'd in Honour to be positive in that Point, and let the *English* know immediately by the Mediators, that they wou'd never submit to a Restitution; to this I added, how much the Interest of the States was concern'd, since the Islands of *Tabago* and *St. Enstachium* having been taken by the *French*, were afterwards sold to the *Dutch* as the first Inhabiters.

I observ'd from Monsieur *de Wit*'s Answer, that if nothing else obstructed the Peace, and the King wou'd not consent to these Restitutions, it wou'd not be in his Power to restrain the People, who are of Opinion so trifling an Interest ought not to retard it.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionné: March 3, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 25th, together with that of his Majesty to the States-General. Before I deliver'd it, I confer'd with Monsieur de Wit about the Contents of it. He is of Opinion, that this Offer of *Dover* will oblige the King of *England* to accept of one of the three Places nam'd in *Holland*, rather than consent to this Nomination of the King's, tho' it may be thought some Advantage to him to have the Treaty manag'd in his own Dominions.

Monsieur de Wit seems perswaded his Majesty will disapprove of any of the three Towns in *Holland*, in case the King of *England* should not accept of *Dover*, since the *Hague* ought not to be excluded without naming some other Places in the *Dutch* Territories, which by reason of their Situation are not expos'd to the Cabels and Factions of our Enemies.

The four Provinces of *Guelde*, *Overyssel*, *Frise* and *Groninguen*, who were for having the Treaty at the *Hague*, have demanded, that the Resolution taken by *Holland* should be communicated to their Provinces, which is according to the ordinary Forms prescrib'd by the Union. But the Province of *Holland* perceiving this would create Delays, and probably defeat their Resolution of rejecting the *Hague*, have over-rul'd that Demand, promising to take upon themselves the Reproaches the Deputies might receive from their Superiors, to whom they might declare, that being Sovereigns of *Holland* they were not oblig'd to accept of a Place in their own Territories contrary to their Sentiments, and that for that reason, without waiting for the Resolution of the Provinces, they were going to send the Letter they had written to the King of *England*, wherein they refuse the *Hague*, and Name three other Places for his Choice, provided the King and the

the King of *Denmark* consented to it. This is all that has happen'd since my last, and you will observe from it, that the Factions in the Towns and Provinces make 'em very often recede from their first Resolutions, and that it's very difficult for 'em to stick to what they have once resolv'd, tho' it be never so advantagious to the State.

Monsieur *de Wit* highly approves of the King's Letter to the States, which he thinks will force the King of *England* to a speedy Answer, either for *Dover*, or the Proposition of the Towns in *Holland*.

Dom *Estevan de Gomarra*, and *Friquet*, have been earnest in pressing Monsieur *de Wit* to persuade the States of *Holland* to a Suspension of Arms: He has given 'em no positive Answer, but has left 'em room to hope the thing may be obtain'd; but he desir'd me to let you know, that he was of Opinion it was not to be granted, for it would be a means for the Admiralties to slacken their Preparations, and in case the Negotiation should be broken off, they would have no Fleet at Sea, whereas a Superiority there would invigorate their Ministers, and render the *English* more compliable.

He thinks farther, that keeping 'em thus in Suspence will have this good Effect, for whilst the *English* have any Hopes of obtaining a Suspension, they will neglect equipping their Fleet to save their Mony, and wo'nt obstruct the Peace by any extravagant Demands, when they see us upon our Guard, and above granting 'em any thing through Fear.

Monsieur *de Wit* tells me, he has receiv'd a long Letter from Monsieur *Van Beuningen*, acquainting him how earnestly he contended to have the *Hague* for the Place of Treaty, but that he found the King very averse to it. Monsieur *de Wit* has answer'd him by this Post, that he finds the Reasons I have offer'd him from his Majesty, which induce him to reject the *Hague*, are of more weight than those he has alledg'd to the contrary, and that therefore he ought to conform himself to his Majesty's Sentiments. He was well pleas'd with

the Assurance he receiv'd from your Letter, that what he had spoken to me had not been communicated to Monsieur Van Benningen.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne.

SINCE I writ my Letter, the Deputies have inform'd me, that his Majesty's Letter has been read; that at first the major Part in the Assembly look'd on this Nomination of *Douer*, as if the King envy'd the Advantage of having the Treaty in their Dominions, and every one reason'd thereupon according to his private Apprehension and Passions; I mean, that those in the *Spanish* and *English* Interest complain'd, that the King went about to deprive 'em of the Honour the King of *England* had done 'em, in chusing a Place for the Treaty in their own Country, it was a Sign that Majesty's Intent was to hinder the Peace; where Monsieur *de Wit* and his Party maintain'd on the contrary, that it was a great Instance of his Majesty's Prudence; that he had made the same Reflections with them in Relation to the *Hague*; that he could not know whether the States would enter upon so wise a Resolution as to refuse it; but that in case they should, his Majesty's Nomination of *Douer* was very happy; since if the King of *England* thought fit to accept it, they would find it as convenient a Place as any other; but he rejected that, and consented to one of the three Towns already nam'd, which are all in the Territory of the States, they had reason to hope his Majesty would be so good, as to agree to it. This is what pass'd in the Assembly this Morning; and since their Resolutions are not like to be very speedy, the Deputies of the Towns must be so manag'd as to obtain an unanimity of Voices; and I shall not be able to inform you what the Result will be, 'till the next Post; however

this I foresee, that if the King of *England* accepts one of the three Places propos'd, the King's Consent will be absolutely necessary, for otherwise the People here will be firmly perswaded, that the King of *England* is more their Friend than his Majesty, and Monsieur *de Wit* will never be able to maintain the contrary; for which reason he desir'd me to let you know of what Importance the King's Concurrence will be in case the King of *England* accepts one of the three Towns. As for their Parts they will make no difficulty of *Dover*; in the mean time, we must endeavour to perswade the Towns to come to good and prudent Resolutions.

Monsieur *de Wit* has receiv'd advice from *England*, that six Men of War with Foot Soldiers on Board are ready to sail to attack *St. Christophers*, and the Isles we have taken in *America*; and that the Fleet, which sail'd in *January* last, and pretended to be bound to the *Mediterranean*, are gone upon the same Design.

*Memorial presented by the Count D'Estades
to the States-General of the United-
Provinces : March 3, 1667.*

THE Count *d'Estades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, has receiv'd Orders from the King his Master, to request from your Lordships a Passport for the Transportation of several Sailors and Soldiers Prisoners in *England*, who after their Ransom paid, are to be transported to *Dunkirk* on board some Merchant Ships, convoy'd by an *English* Man of War; a blank Passport is desir'd, because we know not the Names of the Persons on board the Merchant Men, nor the Man of War. Since his Majesty and the King of *England* grant their Passports for the same purpose, and that your Lordships likewise is no less requisite, 'tis hop'd the Regard you have for his Majesty,

• Majesty, and the Consideration of your own proper
 • Interest, since the Men we are transporting are to
 • be employ'd in the common Cause, will induce you
 • to comply with the said Ambassador's Request, with-
 • out any loss of Time. The said Ambassador Extra-
 • ordinary has subjoin'd this Letter to the present Me-
 • morial, to the end your Lordships may see what it is
 • the Person employ'd in transporting the said Prisoners
 • has written upon that subject. Given at the *Hague*,
March 3, 1667.

D'ESTRADES

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : March 4, 1667.

I Receiv'd yours of the 24th past by the Post, and
 that of the 27th by my Courier; there's no Oc-
 casion for my adding any thing to what has been said
 already in Relation to the Place of Treaty, because
 you must have been inform'd of the King's last Reso-
 lution at the Return of the Courier the States had sent
 to Monsieur *Van Beuningen*; which is, that his Majesty
 has given the King of *Great Britain* the choice of *Bre-*
da, Boissleduc, Mastricht and *Dover*; and my Lord *St*
Albans dispatch'd Yesterday a Courier to *London* to ac-
 quaint his Master with this Conformity. Now, if the
 King of *England* should make choice of *Dover*, the
 States need make no difficulty of consenting to it, o-
 f telling that Prince they were ready to treat with him
 even in *London*, if they were not restrain'd by some
 Consideration for their Allies, who are now willing to
 send their Ministers to *Dover*.

The King of *Denmark's* submitting himself in this
 particular to his Majesty's Sentiments, is look'd on as
 a very great Condescension, and the King has by this
 Post order'd the Chevalier *de Terlon* to thank him for it
 in his Majesty's Name.

H

His Majesty can't think *Dom Estevan de Gomarra* will be so hardy and imprudent as to contest any point with you at the *Swedish* Ambassador's Entry, and you are by no means to listen to any Request the States shall make you of not sending your Coaches, but to let *Monfieur de Wit* know before-hand, as I have already inform'd *Monfieur Van Benningen*, that such a Request will be a sensible Disobligation to his Majesty.

My Lord *St. Albans* and *Monfieur Van Benningen* meeting together at *Monfieur de Ruigny's*, they fell into a warm Discourse about the Isle of *Poleton*, and what was to become of it in case of a Peace. My Lord maintain'd, that it ought to be deliver'd up to his Master, to which the States had oblig'd themselves by several former Treaties that had no dependance upon this in Hand, but were rather to be confirm'd by it; *Monfieur Van Benningen* affirm'd on the contrary, that this would be to depart from the very Foundation of the ensuing Treaty, which was to leave every thing in the Condition they are in at present.

Upon this high Words pass'd between 'em, and they were both positive their Masters would not yield a Jot in a point, where they both thought they had so much reason. The King has discover'd, from some other Expressions of my Lord *St. Albans*, that his Master would set the whole *English* Nation against him, should he throw up his Pretensions. 'Tis worth your while to consider, if this Point, in case the *English* insist upon it, ought to hinder the Conclusion of the Peace, and his Majesty desires you would discourse *Monfieur de Wit* about it, and perswade him in the best manner you can to dispose the States not to retard so great a Blessing one Moment for the sake of a desert Isle in the *Indies*, and which they themselves have entirely ruin'd; you may make use of *Monfieur de Wit's* own Words, and urge the same Arguments he did to you about the Isle of *St. Christophers*, adding, that his Majesty is ready to follow his Advice, if there be Occasion, and Sacrifice the

the Isle of *St. Christophers* for the publick Good, provided the States will do the same by *Paleron*, which is not of half the Importance; otherwise his Majesty foresees that the Peace, of which we have thought our selves so sure, will infallibly be wrack'd in the very Port.

As to Monsieur *de Wit's* Discourse with you, mention'd in yours of the 14th of *February* last, about the Jealousies he observ'd in the People, upon a Rumour of the King's Design to attack *Flanders*, and that in order to compose their Minds it wou'd be necessary to enter upon the Scheme he had formerly propos'd, to which his Majesty and the States shou'd agree to possess themselves of certain Towns, and either by the Negotiations, or by Force of Arms, oblige the rest of the *Low Countries* to erect themselves into a Commonwealth; you may tell Monsieur *de Wit* that the Case has put, which is the King of *Spain's* Death, appears present very uncertain, and at a great Distance, & that his *Spanish* Majesty is much Younger than the King, and is in good Health, and of a hardy Constitution, which makes him think it unreasonable to enter upon Measures of a distant view; but since we are Mortal, and in case the King of *Spain* shou'd die, his Majesty will then be ready to listen to the Proposition and leave the whole World to judge from his Moderation and Conduct, if he has those vast Designs of swallowing all with which he has been so often charg'd by his Enemies.

I know not what it means, but Monsr. *van Benning* Answers me very coldly whenever I press him to see for his Powers, which however wou'd not hasten the Peace more than the States would have it, but wou'd put a stop to several Reports that have been spread on that Occasion. And yet they have not thought on any Account to qualifie Monsr. *van Benningen* with a proper Power, tho' for want of it we may miss the Opportunity of striking up a Peace here with my Lord *St. Albans*, and the King of *Denmark* has sent one Monsr. *Pettecom* without any Difficulty. The King d
fir

fires you to represent this in an earnest manner to *Montieur de Wit*, and so order it, that the Power may come at the same time with your Answer to this Letter.

Memorial of the Count D'Estrades presented to the States-General of the United-Provinces: March 8, 1667.

THE Count d'Estrades, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, represents to your Lordships, that the King his Master having been inform'd, that several defamatory Libels, reflecting on Persons of the first Quality in *France*, have been lately printed and exposed to Sale in these Provinces, his Majesty has commanded the said Ambassador to press your Lordships to order a strict Enquiry to be made after the Authors and Publishers of the said Libels, that they may be brought to exemplary Punishment, to the end that such as are guilty of the like unmannerly Liberties, at which his Majesty is justly offended, may grow more modest for the time to come, and that there may be no Occasion for any Complaints hereafter. This is what the said Ambassador desires your Lordships to take great Care of, that his Majesty may receive due Satisfaction in a Point so reasonable. Given at the *Hague*, March 8, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From

From the Count D'Estrades, to Monsieur de Lionne: March 10, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 4th, and the States as much pleas'd to find his Majesty has left to the King of *England* the Choice of the four Towns. his *Britannick* Majesty excuses *Dover*, the States will readily consent to it.

Four Days ago *l'Isola* sent a Courier to Monsieur *Fruquet*, advising him, that the King of *England* would never agree to the Peace without a Resignation of *Rotron*; and this has been represented with so artful gloss to the Towns, as if the *English* were for keeping not only what they had usurp'd before the Declaration of the War, but, that they had agreed that each Part should hold what they were in Possession of. yet like Conquerors they pretended to impose new Laws, and by their Behaviour seem'd desirous to break the Peace rather than come into any Measures to advance it. Being inform'd of these Intreagues, I waited on Monsieur *de Wit* and the Deputies for Secret Affairs, twice before the Reception of your Dispatch, and had very warm Debates with 'em. I find Monsieur *de Wit* much lead by this Notion more than any of the rest. A great many leading Men, and particularly the Town of *Amsterdam*, being interested in the *East-India* Company, their Opposition is upon that score the more Obstinate; they told me roundly they would never consent to a Restoration; they argu'd upon a private Interest, alledging that the *English* had within these four Years replanted the Isle with Cloves, which would cut off half their Trade because they having been hitherto the only People that dealt in that Commodity, furnishing all *Europe* with it, and setting what Price they pleas'd upon it, they should lose that Advantage if once the Isle came into the Hands of the *English*. I reply'd, that their Reason was weak and selfish; that it was great Pity the Inter-
tere

tereft of a few Merchants fhould weigh more with 'em
 than the Peace of Chriftendom, and the general Good,
 Honour and Reputation of their own State. To this
 I was answer'd by Monsieur de Wit, that to forward
 the Peace the States had contented to relinquish four
 times more than they retain'd, and were ftill ready to
 do any thing, that would not reflect upon their Ho-
 nour; but that to give up *Poleron* was to fubmit them-
 felves to the *Engliſh*, who ſome time or other, when
 the fancy took 'em, would make that a Pretence, and lay
 claim to one of their Provinces, and in caſe of a De-
 nial declare War againſt 'em; that this Pretention to
Poleron was the ſame with that they laid to the Ships
Bonadventure and *Bonne Eſperance*, which might be
 brought to a final Determination for Fifty thouſand
 Crowns, but the States did not think it conſiſted
 with their Honour to give it, it looking as if they
 ſubmitted themſelves to the *Engliſh*, who were to raiſe
 Contributions upon 'em at Pleaſure; that they had
 better continue the War in Vindication of their Right,
 than ſubmit to a Peace upon ſuch diſhonourable Terms
 as the yielding up of *Poleron*; that his Maſters might
 do what they pleas'd, but it ſhould never appear in
 their Records that he ever conſented to ſuch a thing.
 I told him it was not long ſince he ſpoke to me in a
 another Language, when he maintain'd, that to promote
 a Peace the King ought to give up *St. Chriſtophers*, and
 the other conquer'd Iſlands; that it was very ſurpri-
 ſing to ſee him obſtinate, in maintaining a Place which
 by Vertue of a Treaty made whiſt I was in *England*
 ought to have been deliver'd up long e'er this, and
 which notwithstanding they were reſolv'd to withhold
 tho' they knew it muſt infallibly break the Peace;
 yet at the ſame endeavour to perſwade me that his
 Maſteſty ought for the good of the publick to give up
 the Places he has conquer'd in *America*, notwithſtand-
 ing the Foundation of the Treaty is that each Party
 ſhall keep what he has; that whiſt he is urging the
 Honour of the State, he ought not to propoſe any
 thing

thing that might reflect upon the King's; but if they wou'd lay this Point of Chimerical Honour aside, and act in good earnest, they ought to quit *Poleçon*, and thereby set the King an example of quitting his Claim to *St. Christophers*, which I was well assur'd his Majesty wou'd be willing to do, for the sake of so many People as suffer'd by the War, tho' his Pretensions to it were much better founded than those of the State to *Poleçon*.

Monfieur *de Wit* reply'd, that the case was quite different, that the King had seiz'd on those Islands as their Auxiliary, and since they were an Obstacle to the Peace they ought to be restored to the same Condition they were in before the Rupture; that if the *English* had seiz'd on any Places belonging to the King they ought likewise to be deliver'd up; but as for *Poleçon* the matter was quite otherwise; that they had made good their Agreement, in delivering it up; but having recover'd it during the War, they were to retain it according to the Fundamental Article of ev' one keeping what they were in Possession of. I answer'd, I had never heard that *Poleçon* had been deliver'd to the *English*, pursuant to the Treaty, and when I press'd him close upon that Point he was forced to say, that whether it had or no it was now in the Possession of the States, and he wou'd never give his Consent to quit it.

I have had two Conferences more with him upon the same Subject since the Receipt of your Dispatch and find him fix'd in his Opinion. He told me the States wou'd order Monsr. *Van Beuningen* to acquaint the King that they were resolv'd never to give up *Poleçon* to the *English* upon any Consideration whatever.

I have spoke to the States about Monsr. *Van Beuningen's* Power, they have order'd it to be dispatch'd, and I believe it will be sent by this Post.

I have acquainted Monsieur *de Wit* with the King's Answer to mine of the 14th of *February*; he's glad to find his Majesty so ready to come into the Project

in case there shou'd be Occasion for it; he much approves of the King's Moderation, and is of Opinion with his Majesty, that there is no necessity of entering into such an Affair at present, the King of *Spain* being Young and Healthy.

Dom *Estevan de Gomarra* has declar'd, that he has no intent of sending his Coaches to the *Swedish* Ambassador's Entry, and that it is what he never so much as thought on.

The States just now sent me a Deputation to desire I wou'd write to the King in their behalf for the Restitution of the Isles of *Tabago*, and *St. Eustachium*, together with the Colony of *Beaumerona*. As they have order'd Mons. *Van Benningen* to represent this Affair to his Majesty, I thought it not improper to give you a hint of it, and refer my self to his Majesty's Pleasure therein. I am, &c.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: March 11, 1667.*

I Have receiv'd both yours of the 3d Instant, which relate chiefly to his Majesty's Letter to the States, in which the King has nam'd *Dover* for the Place of Treaty on purpose to elude the ill Designs of the *English*, which appear too visible in their nomination of the *Hague*.

The King agrees with whatever the most spiteful of the *Spanish* Faction can say upon this Occasion, and owns, that if his Majesty is for depriving the States of the Honour the King of *England* has done 'em, in chusing a Town in one of their Territories, 'tis a certain sign he has a mind to retard the Peace.

But if his Majesty has without any manner of Difficulty left the King of *England* to his Choice, not of *Dover* only but one of the three Towns propos'd by the States, as you will find by my last to you that

he has done, this I think is sufficient to stop the Mouths of the *Spanish* Cabal, who must be forc'd to confess that his Majesty on the one hand has no other Design than to defeat the dangerous Intreigues of the *English*, and on the other appears so zealous and cordial for the Peace, that as a means to forward it he has wav'd all manner of Ceremony in relation to the Place, and has left it to the Choice of his very Enemy.

I assure you 'tis equally indifferent to the King whether the King of *England* makes Choice of *Dover* or one of the three Towns nam'd by the States; but his Majesty is of Opinion with *Montfieur de Wit*, that it's more likely his Choice will fall upon one of the *Dutch* Towns, that it mayn't be thought he had an regard to his Majesty's Choice of *Dover*.

For these four or five Days past we have been surpris'd with as odd a sort of Negotiation as ever we heard on. We thought we had pleas'd the King of *England* to a nicety, when the Choice of the Place of Treaty was left entirely to him, with the Power of naming one even in his own Territories, notwithstanding which the *E. of St. Albans*, attended by *Monf. de Ravigny*, came to me on *Friday* last, and his first Complement was, that tho' he had a Mind to have his Head brought to the Block yet he trusted in God to protect him, and hoped the King his Majesty wou'd be sensible of his Innocence. This Salutation had like to have put me beside myself, and I am sure you will be no less surpris'd than I was, 'till I have told you what a weighty reason he had for his Complaint, and which was to cost him his Head; you must know he had lately incens'd the Queen Mother of *England*, who thereupon talk'd nothing but retiting, and quitting the World.

But now for the subject of this mighty Combustion which in one word is this, that the King in his Interter to the States had said that his *Britannick* Majesty had sent my Lord *St. Albans* hither qualified with full Power. This some about the Queen Mother of *England* interpreted as a Diminution to her Honour.

and a reflection upon the King her Son, as if he had been so mean as to send and solicit a Peace in this Court.

'Twill be superfluous to enumerate all the Reasons we offer'd my Lord, to make him sensible that nothing had been done but with a good Intention, and that to promote the Peace the King had propos'd *Dover*, which was an honourable Advantage to his Master; notwithstanding all this we labour'd hard two Days together before we cou'd prevail with my Lord to send a Messenger into *England*, to let his Master know that the Choice of the Place was left entirely to his Opinion; and when we had gain'd my Lord, and convinc'd him how necessary it was for him to do it, the Queen continu'd full of her Alarms at *Paris*, and wou'd by no means consent to the Message, insomuch that Monsieur was forced to go, and argue it with her, and with much a-do brought her to comp'y. I was commanded by the King to inform Monsieur *Van Benningen* of these Transactions, desiring him not to acquaint the States with all the particulars, but only Monsieur *de Wit*.

The King is of the same Opinion with *Monf. de Wit* as to the Suspension of Arms, that is, that we ought not to agree to it for those weighty Reasons he has alledg'd. If his Majesty shou'd be press'd to it by the Mediators, or my Lord *St. Albans*, tho' it is not likely that the *English*, who have upon all Occasions appear'd haughty and imperious, shou'd condescend to desire a Suspension, he will either answer in the Negative or so ambiguously that it shall be no better than no Answer at all; you must take care that the States speak in the same Language, that perfect Concert and good Agreement between us may appear upon all Occasions.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur
de Lionne: March 17, 1667.

THE Earl of St. Albans fine Negotiation has no less surpris'd Mons. de Wit than my self; he saith, we must expect to meet with some more such fetches from the *English* before the Conclusion of the Treaty. He has lately intercepted some of *L'Isola's* Letters to *Friquet*, wherein he brags, that no Man at Court is better with the King, the Chancellor, and my Lord *Arington* than he, and adds, that he has given *France* a Wound that *Friquet* will hear of in a short time. The said——is of Opinion that my Lord St. Albans Alarm came from him, and that it's probable he might have perswaded the King of *England* to write something harsh upon that Subject. *L'Isola's* Intrigues make Monsieur de Wit very uneasy, as you will have observ'd from mine of the 15th to his Majesty. He is still of Opinion, that if the King agrees to the Nomination of *London*, his Majesty's Ministers and Monsieur *Van Beuningen* being together upon the Place, will be able to Countermine him in the *English* Court; but if the Negotiation be to be managed elsewhere, he being alone upon the spot will be able to give us a great deal of Trouble by the Strength of his Interest and Artifices. The Provinces of *Guedres*, *Frise* and *Grinnguen*, make a mighty Bustle upon the refusal of the *Hague*, and insist that *England* ought to receive Satisfaction in that Point. The Province of *Friseland* has refused it's Contingent toward equipping the Fleet. The Province of *Holland* reassembled Yesterday and all the Towns seem unanimous in the Refusal of the *Hague*. They are a sort of People that are still creating one some new Business or other to negotiate with'em. I shall omit nothing on my part that may promote his Majesty's Service, than which I assure you Sir, I have nothing more at Heart, being passionately desirous

desirous to convince his Majesty how zealous I am for his Interest.

Monsieur *de Wit* is very glad to find his Majesty has approv'd of the Reasons he has given against a Suspension of Arms; he'll endeavour to keep his Masters firm in the same Sentiments, and get such an Answer from 'em to the Mediators as you have prescrib'd, to the end a perfect Harmony and Union may appear between us upon all Occasions.

The Count *de Dohna* continues Incognito at the *Hague* 'till his Equipage is prepared. Tho' he is Incognito he confers with the Ministers; and prepares to treat of those Affairs with which he is charged; tho' Monsieur *de Wit* tells me he has not so much as notified to him his Arrival. Monsi. *d'Isbrand* is not well inclined to *Sweden*, and I find they are like to make short Work with this Negotiation, if the Count *de Dohna* does not back his Propositions with some good Securities.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 17, 1667.

I Give you the trouble of this second Letter, to acquaint you, that I'm inform'd by two of the Deputies for *Harlem* and *Delft*, who are my intimate Friends, that the People of their Towns are perswaded the King is going to declare War against *Spain*, and that the Book lately printed at *Paris* in Justification of the Queen's Rights, and which they call a Manifesto, is speedily to be sent into Foreign Parts; they add, that most People believe his Majesty and the King of *England* are in a League together, and that what is done between 'em at present is only for a Colour. My Answer was, that I knew nothing of what they had been saying, for which I saw no manner of Foundation; only that there was a necessity of acquainting

the World with the Justice of the Queen's Pretention since the *Spaniards* were already setting forth theirs in Book printing at *Brussels*, design'd to invalidate the Queen's; and that the least thing the King could was to maintain his Right by the Force of Reason, and that in my Opinion the Allies ought in return to prove of 'em, and support 'em as occasion shall offer.

As to the secret Accommodation between his Majesty and the King of *England*, I told 'em, I had need to make any Reply to that, since it carry'd a contradiction in it, and that his Majesty's Sincerity too well known in the World to be suspected of such Collusion. In a Visit Monsieur *de Wit* made this Morning, I mention'd these Reports to him of my own Accord, and receiv'd an Answer from him candid and reserv'd; he said no more, than that he should be the last that would believe it, and yet he confess'd that such a Report, and the Appearance of a Rupture with *Spain*, was too notorious. What I am writing you, Sir, is not with a Design to enter into your Thoughts upon these Matters, but only to give you an Account of all that passes here, to which I think my self oblig'd by the Duty of my Station.

*Memorial of Monsieur Van Beuningh
presented to the Most Christian King
March 17, 1667.*

THE Instances the Lords the States-General of the *United-Provinces* have made to the Most Christian King, for the Restitution of the Isles of *St. Eustachie* and *Tobago*, and the Country of *Bermuda*, have this Foundation, viz. That since the said Islands, and Country, having been taken by the *English* from the Subjects of the said Lords the States-General during this present War, and been retai-

by his said Majesty's Subjects, the Law of Nations requires, that they return to their first Possessors, as may be prov'd from the Civilians *, and several Examples, which make it a thing incontestable.

This Law, which is in force among Nations, who are only in Amity with each, ought more especially to be observ'd between Allies and Confederates, and consequently in the present Case, his Christian Majesty having united his Forces with those of the States to restrain the Insolencies of the *English*, who began an unjust War without a Provocation.

And above all, forasmuch as his said Majesty stands engaged by Virtue of the Alliance the Lords have the Honour to be in with him, to maintain 'em in their Rights and Possessions, and particularly, never to conclude a Peace with the common Enemy, 'till they are restor'd to the Possession of such Countries, Lands and Towns, as they held before the War, as may be seen expressly in the † tenth Article.

So that his Majesty, who would think himself oblig'd to force the *English* to surrender the said Islands, and Country, if they were still in their Possession, before he concluded a Peace with 'em, will never suffer his own Subjects to with-hold 'em contrary to the Law of Nations, and the express Terms of the said Alliance.

F 4

• But

* *Georgius de jure Pacis & Belli. lib. 3. cap. 9. §. 13.*

Inter res primum occurrunt agri, qui in postliminio sunt, Verum est, ait Pomponius, expulsis hostibus ex agris, quos ceperint, dominia eorum ad priores dominos redire. Leg. si captivus &c. verum est, pag. 90.

† An Extract of the tenth Article between the Most Christian King and the States General.

But in case a Negotiation for a Peace should be set on Foot, neither Party should conclude it without having his Allie included in it, and without seeing him restored, if he insists upon it, to the Possession of such Countries, Lands and Towns, with a full Enjoyment of all those Rights and Immunities, which he enjoy'd and was possess'd of before the War.

' But if the Law of Nations, and of our Alliance,
 ' justifies the Demand of the States, so likewise doth
 ' the Law of Reason, which can never allow us to
 ' receive greater Damage from our Friends and Allies,
 ' than from our Enemies; as we shall do in this case,
 ' if his Majesty's Subjects are suffer'd to retain the said
 ' Islands and Country, since we can't recover 'em out
 ' of their Hands by the Force of our Arms, as we
 ' might do from our Enemies; and moreover were the
 ' *English* in the Possession of 'em, they would, in case
 ' of an Accommodation, be of some service to the
 ' States by way of Compensation; and what is more,
 ' we might be sure of 'em at the end of the War, his
 ' Majesty, being oblig'd as has been before observ'd, to
 ' see 'em restor'd, should we insist upon it before the
 ' Conclusion of the Peace.

' But we have great reason to believe these Argu-
 ' ments are unnecessary with a Prince so just and dis-
 ' cerning, and who has show'd himself so tender in
 ' the exact observance of the Postiminium; that since
 ' the said Lords States had got the Town of *Rhinberg*
 ' twice from their Enemies, and yet reserv'd to them-
 ' selves no other Right than that of placing a Garri-
 ' son in it, which was justifiable upon very good
 ' Reasons, his Majesty could never be induc'd to se-
 ' cure the States in the Exercise of the said Right, in
 ' case the Elector of *Cologne* should dispute it with
 ' 'em by Force of Arms, so far was his Majesty from
 ' undertaking to maintain 'em in the full Possession of
 ' the said Place, if they had absolutely depriv'd the
 ' said Elector of it, and refus'd him the Right of Post-
 ' liminium, tho' he was neither their Ally or Con-
 ' federate.

' Nor will their Pretentions be any ways weaken'd
 ' from this Consideration, that Ships and other Move-
 ' ables retaken, after they have been for some time in
 ' the Enemies Hands, remain to the Captors; since
 ' Authors agree, that as there is a diversity of Reasons
 ' between Moveables and Immoveables, so likewise is
 ' there

' there a Diversity of Right, and the *Postliminium*
' which is observ'd in the latter had no Influence in the
' former.

From *Monsieur de Lionne* to the Count
D'Estrades : March 18, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 10th, and *Mons. Van Beuningen* has presented to the King the State's Answer to his Majesty's last Letter, and 'tis to be wish'd they had made no mention of *London*, for tho' they thought it would be a Step to forward the Peace, it may probably prove a Means to retard it, since his Majesty has several Reasons that will not suffer him to have it treated in *London*; and in my Opinion we granted enough when we agreed to have it negotiated in any one Place in *England*. His Majesty is pleas'd to find *Monsieur Van Beuningen* has at length receiv'd his Power. We are not yet able to judge, if there will be any Occasion of exercising it here, since the Earl of *St. Albans* last Courier to *England*, by whom he acquainted his Master, that the Choice of the Place was remitted to him, is not yet arriv'd. If he returns before the Post goes, I will add his Answer by way of Postscript.

The best Pretensions the States will be able to make out for the retaining *Polemon* will be those Pieces, if they have any such, as *Mons. Van Beuningen* assures me they have, by which they are able to make it appear, that the Island has actually been deliver'd up to the *English*, by Vertue of their former Treaty, and that it may probably have been retaken by their Forces during the present War; for in that Case the States having comply'd with their Agreement, the *English* can have no manner of pretence to reclaim it, since the present Treaty is to be founded upon this Maxim, that every thing shall be left in the Condition in which the Chance
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of War has plac'd it. On the other side, if this Restitution has never been made, then the States are able to judge if it's fit to continue the War in Christendom for the sake of *Polemon*. *Mons. Van Benningen* ought to give me an instructive Memorial, containing the Presentations his Masters have to the Islands of *Tokago*, and *St. Enstachio*, and the Colony of *Beaumerana*, which they demand by theirs to the King, which he has left in my Hands.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: March 18, 1667.*

MY Lord *St. Albans* Courier return'd since I clos'd my last. My Lord himself is ill of the Gout at *Paris*, but I understand from *Mons. de Rouvigny*, who saw him this Morning, that he brings nothing in his Answer likely to promote the Peace, for the King his Master positively declares he will never quit his Pretensions to *Polemon*; and as for the Place of Assembly, he insists upon sending his Ambassadors to the *Hague*; giving this, as I think, for his only Reason, that if the Treaty proves ineffectual, he had rather it should do so at the *Hague* than *Dover*. By this the ill Designs of the *English* are visible; for at the best, supposing the King of *England* should be unwilling to venture the Miscarriage of the Treaty in his own Dominions, yet this would be no objection to *Boisseduc* or *Breda*. The King continues firm in his Resolution of never having the Negotiation at the *Hague*, and his Majesty expects you should be urgent with the States never to agree to a Point that may prove of so dangerous a Consequence, however you ought to press very earnestly for the equipping of the Fleet.

As for *Polemon*, I told you before, the States are left to judge, if that be of moment enough to continue the War. I was always of Opinion, that a Sum of
Money

Many would tempt the King of *England* to quit his Pretensions; and *Ramuzay* has gather'd from some Discourse with *St. Albans*, that the *English* pretend such a thing has been offer'd by *Mons. de Wis*, I know not whether it was lately or some time ago; but this I know, that it will be worth the while of each Party to find out some Expedient or other, and that you ought to forward it as much as you can.

From the King of Great Britain to their High Mightinesses, the States-General of the United Provinces: March 18, 1667.

High and Mighty Lords,

THO' we receiv'd not yours of the 24th past, till Yesterday by the Hands of the *Swedish* Ambassadors Extraordinary, who have been earnestly pressing us not to frustrate the Peace of Christendom, by insisting too obstinately upon a Place of Treaty; we have nevertheless been inform'd from *France* and *Flanders* you had Exceptions to the *Hague*, and that for Reasons which much surpris'd us, as if we had something more in view, when we nominated that Place, than a firm Peace; and if we are to consider, that the *Hague* is the Place where the States-General ordinarily meet, and where consequently you might more easily judge of the Integrity of our Designs, we might reasonably think the Treaty could be carry'd on in no other Place with more Expedition and Success; and tho' we might for several good Reasons still insist upon our former Nomination, yet that we may manifest to all the World, that no Formalities or Circumstances shall hinder us from putting an End, if possible, to a War so destructive to Christendom, we are content to send the Baron *Hollis*, a Member of our Privy-Council, and Mr. *Henry Coventry*, one of our Bed-Chamber, to *Breda*, there

there to treat with your Deputies; and such other ...
 sters as shall be sent thither by the Powers engag'd in
 the War; and shall dispatch 'em from hence as soon as
 your Passports arrive for the Security of the Ships de-
 sign'd to transport them and their Equipage. Beseeching
 God to touch the Hearts of all those who are concern'd
 in the present War with the same Sentiments of Peace.
 Given at *Whitehall*, *March 18, 1667.*

Your good Friend, &c.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to Monsieur Van
 Beuningen: March 18, 1667.*

S I R,

MONsieur de Rouvigny just now told me in one
 Word, all I know of the Answer the Courier has
 brought from *England*, which is, that it contains no-
 thing that is likely to forward the Peace, for the *Eng-
 lish* are resolv'd to have *Pouleron*, or not to make it;
 and as for the Place of Assembly they insist still upon
 the *Hague*, giving this for a Reason, that if the Nego-
 tiation must be broken, they had rather it should be
 done there than at *Dover*; I leave you from this to
 judge of the Integrity of their Pretentions, for they
 might as well have chosen *Breda* or *Boisleduc*, if they
 were unwilling the Peace should be broken off in their
 Dominions.

I am, &c.

Sign'd, De Lionne:

*I desire you to communicate the Contents of this to
 Monsieur Petkom.*

St. Germain, March 18, 1667.

From

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 24, 1667.

THE King of *England* having declar'd, that he will enter upon a Treaty no where but at the *Hague*, and rejected such Places as have been nam'd by the King, and the States, the Province of *Zealand* have thereupon clos'd in with that of *Frize*, and declar'd that they will no longer furnish their Contingent to the Equipping of the Fleet, since the States have refus'd the *Hague* for the Place of Treaty; and by this means 30 Sail of Ships, the number those two Provinces us'd to furnish'd out, are with-held, and 'tis much to be fear'd this will prove a means to break the Union. Monsieur *de Wit* was never so put to it before; all he can do will be scarce sufficient to restrain the Provinces from agreeing immediately to the *Hague*. This Morning I presented a Memorial to the States upon this Subject, that every Deputy may send a Copy of it to his respective Province, and that they may be assur'd, that his Majesty will never consent to the *Hague*.

At present we are to consider what must be done, in case the Dissenting Provinces can't be brought to, and stand much in need of your good Council in this Conjunction; for if all we can do should prove ineffectual, and they should still insist upon the *Hague*, we may be assur'd, that the opposite Cabals will have got the better; and that they will strike up a Peace with *England*, contrary to the Sentiments of Monsieur *de Wit*.

In this Extremity I have been thinking on one Expedient, which is, that if we can prevail with *Holland* to continue the War alone in Conjunction with his Majesty's Fleet and that of *Denmark*, in that case we might find a time to bring 'em by force back to their Duty; at least we shall be able to retard the Peace by hindring its being treated at the *Hague*, and probably
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there to treat with your Deputies; and such other Matters as shall be sent thither by the Powers engag'd in the War; and shall dispatch 'em from hence as soon as your Passports arrive for the Security of the Ships design'd to transport them and their Equipage. Beseecching God to touch the Hearts of all those who are concern'd in the present War with the same Sentiments of Peace. Given at Whitehall, March 18, 1667.

Your good Friend, &c.

From Monsieur de Lionne to Monsieur Van Beuningen: March 18, 1667.

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some

some Conjunction or other may happen to bring 'em to themselves; but I am sensible of an unavoidable Inconvenience in this Expedient, for whereas *Frize* and *Zealand* used to send out 30 Ships for their Quota, we shall find it a difficult matter to perswade *Holland* to such an Augmentation, unless they are assisted by their Allies; of this, Monsieur, you are able to form a better Judgement than my self: All that I know is, that the Chief Ministers here are in a great Consternation, and when Monsieur *de Wit* desired I would send an Express to incline the King to consent to *London*, he then thought that the only way to break all their Measures for the *Hague*; but now he is of a contrary Opinion, and thinks the King of *England* acts in Concert with the *Spaniards* and the House of *Orange*, and insists upon the *Hague* on purpose to create Divisions in the Provinces; some Steps of the Count *de Debea* has already made him suspect him; it's plain his Aunt the Princess Dowager governs him as she pleases.

That Minister made his publick Entry Yesterday; I sent my Coach to meet him, and Complemented him as soon as he had notified his Arrival. I intend to see him to morrow.

I have been discoursing Monsieur *de Wit* about what Monsieur *de Rouvigny* told you relating to *Polemon*. He reply'd, that he had never heard of any other Proposal or Agreement than what was made with *Cromwell* at the Conclusion of the Peace, by Vertue of which they were to deliver *Polemon* up to the *English*; that an *English* Merchant was sent from *London* to Count *de Graef*, Lord of *Polsbroeck*, Burgomester of *Amsterdam*, with a Proposition of suffering *Polemon* to continue in the Hands of the *Dutch* upon the Payment of an Annual Sum; that whilst *Cromwell* liv'd this Agreement was observ'd; but that Affairs were now upon another Foot, that they had actually deliver'd it up to the *English* pursuant to their Treaty; that they had retaken it since the Declaration of the War, and that according to the Foundation of the future Treaty, all Parties

Parties wereto keep what they had possess'd themselves of during the War.

I understand by a Letter I have receiv'd from Monsieur *Pompeu*, that he has writ to you in the same Terms. I have confer'd with Monsieur *de Wit* and the Deputies for secret Affairs about it, with a design if possible to dispose 'em to some Temperament.

I believe instead of an Act of Neutrality, the States will be contented to have the King of *Sweden* engage himself under his Hand to stand Neutre during this present War, and to have his Majesty the Guaranty, as he is to the King of *Denmark*.

All Monsieur *de Wit*'s Advices from *England* mention the great Power *Isola* is in there; he is in the greatest Credit with the King, as well as his Ministers; and the mischievous Effects he has too much reason to apprehend from that Minister's Interest, and Address, makes him very uneasy.

I can assure you this Country was never so full of Intrigues as at present, ev'ry one pushing to give the publick Affairs such a turn, as will be most proper for his private Interest. If things go on at this rate, I shall be obliged to make a turn into *North-Holland*, and visit my Friends in the Towns. I believe Monsieur *de Wit* will do the same. I desire you, Sir, to be assured that I shall omit nothing lies in my Power for the King's Service; and that I desire nothing more earnestly than to be able to do something that may be agreeable to his Majesty.

I am to go one Day this Week with the Deputies of the Dukes of *Brunswick* to confer about their Master's Interests in *West-Friseland*, and examine the Subject of the Count's Complaint. Monsieur *de Wit* has promis'd to give us Satisfaction in that Point, and make it appear that the States act very justly, and agreeable to the Treaties with the States of *West-Frise*.

*The King's Memorial to the Count D'Estrades,
sent by Monsieur de Lionne.*

AS soon as the Count *d'Estrades* had perceiv'd the Dissent of four Provinces, who declared that the King of *England's* Offer of the *Hague* ought to be thankfully accepted, and that in case it was not, they wou'd no longer contribute to the Expenses of the War, he ought to have demanded Audience of the States-General, and represented to 'em the Unreasonableness and Irregularity, not to say Infidelity of such a Proceeding, and to require expressly the Deputies of *Friseland, Gueldres, Overysse* and *Groningen*, to tell him what Account he shou'd give the King, since their present Councils corresponded so little with the Answer of the States-General to his Majesty's last Letter, in which they thank'd his Majesty for the great readiness he had shown to advance the Peace, being willing to go and treat even in *England* itself, and in Conclusion resigning to him absolutely the Choice of the Place, which might induce his Majesty as it actually has done to reject the *Hague* with more Assurance, tho' the four Provinces above named are now earnest to accept it, as a great Honour done 'em by the King of *England*. But since this was not done when their Spirits were first upon the fret, tho' such a Remonstrance might probably have cool'd 'em, by making 'em sensible of the unhandsonness of their Conduct, and particularly by laying before 'em the many new and essential Obligations they are under to his Majesty, who so seasonably deliver'd 'em from the War of *Munster*; his Majesty desires the Count *d'Estrades* will immediately acquaint the States how much his Majesty is displeas'd at the strange frowardness, with which the Deputies of the Provinces oppose what has already been agreed by common Consent, between his Ma-

jesty

‘ jesty and the States, in relation to the Exclusion of the *Hague* in the Negotiations of Peace.

‘ His Majesty has so much Charity as to hope that this is only the Effect of some false Impressions, and the Artifices of those who wou’d make the Refusal of the *Hague* pass for an Obstacle to the Peace.

‘ Upon this Consideration his Majesty thinks it necessary for the Count d’ *Estrades* to endeavour by all imaginable ways to undeceive the People, and give ‘em juster Conceptions of things, before their wrong Notions produce more fatal Effects; and in case he finds ‘em too obstinate, and so far prejudiced as not to give way to his friendly Expostulations, he may then make ‘em sensible how much, and how justly the King is provoked at their unreasonable Conduct so prejudicial to the common Cause; and this he may do in such Terms, and in such a manner as the Nature of the Evil, and the Dispositions of People he has to deal withal, seems most to require; above all things he will do well to make ‘em sensible that these Dissentions will prove a much greater Obstacle to the Peace, than the Resolution his Majesty and the States have taken of not suffering it to be treated at the *Hague*. That it’s evident the *English* appear so little inclin’d to it, not from any Dependence upon their own Forces, or any foreign Assistance, but from the only hope they have of being able either to sow Divisions between the Provinces themselves, or between the States and their Allies; a Hope hitherto vain and ineffectual.

‘ That a bare Comparison of the Forces on both Sides is a clear Demonstration of this Truth; tho’ some are ready at present to consider the *English* Nation as a victorious Enemy, by whom the Allies are reduced to a necessity of suing for a Peace.

‘ That it’s very visible how diligent the *English* have been ever since the beginning of the War to oblige the States to a Treaty at *London*; after that they endeavour’d to exclude the King of *Denmark* in the

• Treaties with the rest of the Allies, and have try'd all
 • manner of ways to create a Division in the Alliance ;
 • but it's no less visible how dexterously they have
 • shifted Hands when they saw us elude all their In-
 • treagues with a Firmness and Unanimity; and that
 • in short it's a melancholy thing to observe, that
 • whilst they are playing the same Game over again in
 • the Nomination of the *Hague*, there shou'd be some
 • People so weak at this time o' day as to be deluded
 • by 'em.

• That this Weakness might at first have been in
 • some manner excusable, as arising from a Notion that
 • the *English* were in good earnest for the Peace; but
 • it's astonishing to see how Men shou'd come to be
 • mis-lead now, when 'tis plain the *English* continue
 • obstinate for the *Hague*, tho' we have offer'd to
 • come and treat with 'em at their own Doors, the on-
 • ly thing they have hitherto desired, and that with
 • as much Convenience and Expedition as it can pos-
 • sibly be done at the *Hague*; after this, People must
 • be wilfully Blind, if they can't see the Poison that
 • lies lurking under the specious Professions of Sincer-
 • ity and Condescension.

• That this will appear still more evident if we con-
 • sider that the King of *England* heretofore thought it
 • so material a Point to have the Treaty managed in
 • his own Dominions, that he publicly declared by
 • Word and in Writing, that no Misfortune whatso-
 • ever shou'd make him stoop so low as to suffer it to
 • be done in any Place belonging to the States, and
 • now when the Circumstances of Affairs will allow us
 • to make him an Offer of *Dover*, nothing will serve
 • his turn but the *Hague*, and that without giving us
 • any tolerable Reason for it.

• That this deserves to be compared with the *Swedish*
 • Ambassadors Letter to the Sieur *Appelboom*, dated
 • the 21st of *February*, wherein they tell him they
 • are assured the King of *England* will accept of no
 • Town that shall be nominated by the States, nor any
 • Place

Place remote from *England*; from which one may easily Collect, that he wou'd very readily have accepted of any Town in *England*, if he had not been sensible that his Proposition of the *Hague* had raised the Spirit of Discord in the Provinces, and that it wou'd be more for his Advantage to insist upon his own Nomination, than to have the Treaty even in his own Dominions.

And this Truth is put out of all Dispute by a Letter from the *Sieur Puffendorf*, the *Swedish* Secretary, in *France*, sent to the *Sieur de Lionne*, the 16th of *March*, wherein it appears plainly, that as soon as the Proposition of *Dover* was known at *London*, it was receiv'd there not only with much joy, but even with Acknowledgements from the King of *England* himself of his Obligations to his Majesty for his generous Condescension, with this particular Expression, that his Majesty made it appear by this Proposition how entirely he desired a Peace.

That this Nomination of *Dover* will still be receiv'd with the same Cheerfulness in *England*, if by a good Agreement and Uniformity of Sentiments in the Provinces, and an honourable Adherence to the Measures already taken, the *English* find themselves disappointed in the Hopes they had conceiv'd from that Diversity of Opinions, and ill grounded Heats that have so shamefully interrupted that Prudence and Uniformity of Conduct, which has hitherto prov'd so Glorious and Beneficial to the States; that tho' otherwise the *Hague* might be accepted without much detriment to the common Cause, yet to accept of it now, after it has been proposed in such high and domineering Terms by the *English*, wou'd be an irreparable Prejudice.

Above all, the Count d' *Astrades* will do well to make 'em sensible how shameful and injurious it will be in 'em, to retract upon so slight Grounds the Resolution they had taken of excluding the *Hague*, having but eight Days before told his Majesty how much

• they were pleas'd to find him of their Opinion in that
 • case, especially after his Majesty had directed the Earl
 • of *St. Albans*, who had express Orders to insist upon
 • the *Hague*, to tell his Master, that neither his Ma-
 • jesty nor the Allies wou'd ever consent to have the
 • Treaty managed at the *Hague*.

• The Count *d' Estrades* will find it an easie Mat-
 • ter to remove all the trifling and impertinent Rea-
 • sons, that fill up the best part of the *Swedish* Am-
 • bassador's Letter to the *Sieur Appleboom*, design'd
 • (contrary to the Quality of Mediators) to support a
 • Cause of it self insupportable; and this he will be
 • sure to do if he finds that Letter has made any Im-
 • pression, as indeed it is but too likely that it hath.

• He will likewise inform the *Sieur Appleboom*, that
 • the King thinks himself ill used by him, in that he
 • has made the fore-mention'd Letter publick, without
 • communicating it to the Count *d' Estrades*, tho' he
 • knew the Points it opposed were very agreeable to
 • his Majesty's Sentiments.

• The King hopes these Reasons, and such others,
 • as may occasionally offer themselves in the Audience,
 • which he is to demand of the States, as well as in
 • private Conversations, will effectually put a stop to
 • these unseasonable Heats, and perswade the Persons
 • concern'd to continue firm in their first Resolu-
 • tions, with the same Constancy and Vigour, which
 • has hitherto appear'd so honourably during the Course
 • of this War; as soon as he has brought 'em to them-
 • selves, and united 'em in a Conformity of Opinions,
 • he will then prevail with the States to write imme-
 • diately to the King of *England*, and tell him, that neither
 • they nor their Allies will ever consent to have the
 • Treaty managed at the *Hague*; if this be not done
 • speedily, the *English* flattering themselves with migh-
 • ty Advantages from our Divisions, will persevere in
 • insisting upon the *Hague*, and by that means retard
 • the Peace for several Months together.

• However

‘ However if after all the Count d’ *Estrades* shall find that these Oppositions and Animosities, are not to be quell’d with all he shall be able to offer, but that they continue intractable, he must then acquaint Mons. *de Wit*, that his Majesty can by no means approve of his Expedient of offering to treat at *London*, but if nothing less will serve to continue the Union of the Provinces, he may tell him in Confidence, that his Majesty will not be against it, if it comes to be offer’d afresh by the *English*, and this the *Sieur de Wit* may add to the many Obligations from the King to the States.

‘ The Count d’ *Estrades* must concert with Mons. *de Wit* in what manner to execute this Memorial, to the end that being perfectly acquainted with the Nature of the Disease, he may be the better able to apply proper and seasonable Remedies.

‘ The King sent on *Wednesday* last for Mons. *van Beningen*, and told him plainly, and word for word, what he has been now giving in Charge to the Count d’ *Estrades*, requiring him to give an exact Account of all to the States, which he promised to do accordingly. Dated at *St. Germain* in *Lays*, *March 25*, 1667.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D’Estrades: *March 25*, 1667.

MEthinks in this Conjunction *Puffendorf*’s Letter will be of great use to you, in which he mentions the great Joy and Satisfaction the Proposition of *Dever* was at first receiv’d withal in *England*, and that they had not alter’d their Opinions so positively in behalf of the *Hague*, but upon Advice that such a Choice wou’d raise a Faction, and probably create a Division in the Provinces.

I thought it safer to send the Original Letter by Post, than by your own Express, that I might check the Curiosity and Artifices of the Governour of *Flanders*; I intend to send a Duplicate in Cypher by Express.

His Majesty is assured the King of *England* was advised to propose the *Hague*, by one of the very States in the Interest of the Prince of *Orange*; and he is sensible that all is levell'd at Monsieur *de Wit*'s Credit and Authority, which his Majesty is resolv'd to maintain to the utmost.

A Man, who understands the *English* perfectly well and knows what they are capable of doing, told me this Morning, that in case their Ambassadors were admitted to the *Hague*, Monsieur *de Wit*'s Person would be in danger. As he is seldom upon his guard, I'm of Opinion 'tis a thing not unlikely; for the *English* are sensible such an Action wou'd shock the State, if which they might make themselves Masters, by the Interest of those who are of the Prince of *Orange*'s Party; for this Reason I'm of Opinion, that if *Breda* or *Boisleduc* shou'd be chosen, 'tis not safe for Monsieur *de Wit* to go thither, and should the *English* prefer either of those Towns to *Dover* that would encrease my Suspensions.

If you can but persuade the States into the same Opinion, we shan't value the Blow *l'Isola* brags to *Franchet* he has levell'd at *France*. You may assure Monsieur *de Wit*, that the Secret of intercepting his Expresses be observ'd inviolably.

I have let the Sieur *Puffendorf* know, by his Majesty's Command, that if the Ministers of *Sweden* continue to show so much Partiality to the *English*, as they have hitherto done, presuming even to write seditious Letters on purpose to obstruct the Peace, the King will be oblig'd to deprive 'em of the Mediation, or at least require other Ministers from *Sweden*; however I think it will be to fall out of the Frying-pan into the Fire, to exchange *Appleboom* for the Count *de Dohna*, who is Nephew to the Princess Dowager of *Orange*.

They

They that imagine there is an underhand Agreement between his Majesty and the King of *England*, and that what is done at present is nothing but for show, will be of another Opinion when you have executed the Orders his Majesty has charg'd you withal.

Memorial presented by the Count D'Estrades to the States-General of the United-Provinces: March 25, 1667.

THE Count *d'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, is order'd by the King his Master to represent to your Lordships, that the first time the King of *England* entertain'd any Thoughts of a Peace, the thing he most insist'd upon was to have it treated at *London*; but when he found that neither your Lordships nor your Allies could be brought to consent to it, his *Britanick* Majesty then propos'd the *Hague*, from which your Lordships had very good Reasons to be excus'd, and agreed to have the Treaty either at *Boisleduc*, *Breda* or *Mastricht*, to which his Majesty added *Dover*, as a Place convenient, and in that Prince's Dominions, for which reason he hop'd there could be no Objection to it, and this was all his Majesty could do to forward the Peace: But since this Condescension on the King's Part, the Proposals from your Lordships, and several other obvious Considerations have had no effect on the King of *England*, who on the other Hand is more obstinate for the *Hague* than ever, notwithstanding he has been made sensible of the Inconveniences that must necessarily attend it, and the Reasons there are against it, it's plain from this Obstinacy, that he has something else in View than the Peace; for had his Desires been sincere to that, what Objection can he have to any one of the Places that

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have

have been propos'd to him; instead of *London*, which he seem'd so much to insist upon, he has the *Choir* of *Dover*, and instead of the *Hague* he has the *Off* of three other Places in the same Country and Neighbourhood, and this is as much as he can in reason desire. Upon these Considerations, his Majesty assures your Lordships that he will continue firm in his Resolutions of never consenting to have the Peace negotiated at the *Hague*, and he thinks it highly imports your Lordships, and the common Cause, never to recede from your former Resolutions. At the same time he entreats your Lordships to order the Equipment of your Fleet without delay, that it may be ready to put to Sea out of hand; assuring you, that all proper means shall be us'd to have his own fitted out with equal Diligence, being sensible that this at present is the only means left to obtain so desirable an End as is that of the Peace. Given at the *Hague* March 25, 1667.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King :
March 31, 1667.

I Thought it my Duty to concert Matters with Monsieur *de Wit* in this present Conjunction, before I transacted any thing with the States, and to settle with him the proper means to set those Provinces right, that have been so much out of the Way. We judg'd the best Expedient was to perswade the Towns of *Holland* to persist in the Refusal of the *Hague*, and then to gain the Deputies of the Dissenting Provinces, by representing to them, from several convincing Reasons, the Injury they did themselves in list'ning to such specious Pretences as were design'd only to break the Alliance, and withdraw 'em entirely from your Majesty; after we had convinc'd 'em of this by the Means of our Friends, the *Sieur de Wit* and my Self visited 'em in parti-

particular, and forgot nothing we thought able to make 'em sensible of their Error. Tho' they seem'd to agree with us in all we had been urging, yet they gave us to understand their Principals were of other Sentiments.

This oblig'd me to give in a Memorial to the States General the 25th of this Month, of which I send your Majesty a Copy, and which I communicated first to Mons. de Wit, who very well approv'd of it. We agreed at the same time, that the Province of *Holland* should send Deputies to the Dissenting Provinces to complain of their Behaviour, and bring 'em back to their Duty; that the Deputies should make use of the Reasons contain'd in my Memorial, and such others as I had offer'd to the several Deputies of the respective Provinces, giving 'em to understand, that if their Principals persisted in a Resolution so injurious to your Majesty, and contrary to their own Interest, I had Orders to demand an Audience, and make 'em explain themselves upon a Fact, in which they so shamefully broke the Treaty of 1662, but that your Majesty was so good as to command be to defer this, 'till I saw what Answer they return'd by the Deputies of *Holland*.

For these Reasons, Sir, I defer'd demanding a publick Audience, 'till I saw a Necessity of coming to that Extremity; for after that, should the Provinces continue obstinate a Rupture of the Union would be unavoidable, which must be attended by a great many Calamities; whereas treating thus privately, and without the Forms, we hope we shall have Interest and Address enough to bring 'em to themselves. However, if your Majesty disapproves the Method I am in, I will alter my Measures, and punctually observe the Orders you shall please to send me.

Mons. de Wit and I have reason to believe the Provinces will be brought to; to oblige 'em the sooner to it, I presented a Memorial to the States this Morning, requiring 'em to send me their Deputies, that I might inform

inform 'em of your Majesty's Pleasure contain'd in Express I had just receiv'd. Accordingly they came after Dinner, and I communicated to 'em the Letter I had the Honour to receive from your Majesty, which I gave 'em a Copy, and at the same time deliver'd 'em the *Sieur Puffendorf's* original Letter, in order to have it read in a full Assembly, and endeavour to make 'em sensible from every part of your Majesty's Letter, how much the Provinces were to blame in running thus into Sentiments so prejudicial to the common Cause; they appear'd at their parting sensibly touch'd with what I had been saying, and I promised my self a prosperous Success. The States have resolv'd to require the *Sieur Appleboom* to let the Mediator know, that if they don't forthwith deliver their first Letter to the King of *England*, wherein they have refus'd to accept of the *Hague*, they will send a Trumpet Express into *England*, with another to the same purpose. That which gives me the most trouble is, to find the People in general so inclin'd to receive wrong Impressions of *France*, and the present Government. No Endeavours have been wanting to set 'em right in that particular, and if they were capable of judging their own Interest, the Reasons contain'd in your Majesty's Letter would be sufficient to undeceive 'em; but they are obstinately blind, and so foolish as to believe your Majesty's principal Design is to watch your Opportunity, and conquer them as soon as you have made sure of *Flanders*: 'Tis not *Mons. de Wit*, nor the Men of Sense among the States that believe this, but the generality of the People; and the Magistrates in the particular Towns, whose ordinary Conversation runs upon nothing else. I am daily endeavouring to silence these false Reasoners with Arguments, the most Solid and Effective, such as the many late Obligations your Majesty has confer'd upon the States; the Auxiliary Troops sent into *Holland*; the Peace with the Bishop of *Munster*; the Rupture with *England*; the great Expences your Majesty had been at, and the Diligence

us'd to have a Fleet at Sea able to assist 'em powerfully, this Campaign.

To this I added, that their Apprehensions were no better than ill grounded Conceptions, and real Falshoods; but that my Allegations were true in Fact, and that they had enjoy'd the Effects of 'em for these twelve Months past.

I told Mons. de Wit, as a Secret betwixt him and my self, your Majesty's Pleasure relating to the City of London, and the Conditions upon which you would be pleas'd to accept of it, with which he seem'd very well pleas'd; but he's at present of Opinion, that tho' the King of England should propose it, yet it ought not to be accepted at first, but after several repeated Propositions on his Part, that he may be given to understand, that neither your Majesty, the King of Denmark, or the States, are so ready to gratifie him as he has imagin'd. Mons. de Wit thinks this Haughtiness in the English ought to be mortify'd, since they insist so much upon the Restitution of the Islands in America, and of Peloron, before they consent to a Place of Treaty.

Memorial presented by the Count d'Estrades, to the States-General of the United-Provinces: March 31, 1667.

THE Count d'Estrades, Ambassador Extraordinary of France, desires your Lordships would be pleas'd to know, that he has receiv'd Dispatches from the King his Master, containing Matters of great Importance that ought to be with speed debated: And he desires your Lordships would appoint him Deputies to confer accordingly. Given at the Hague, March 31, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 31, 1667.

I Receiv'd yours of the 25th by the Courier, and the Duplicate the same Day by the Post, which arriv'd but a few Hours after the Express. You will find, Sir, by mine to the King, that the Provinces are with much ado come to themselves. They are still a little offended with *Holland*, but not so as to prejudice the common Cause, as I once thought their first Heats would have done.

The Reasons contain'd in the King's Memorial have not a little contributed to this Calm: And Mons. de *Witt* thinks himself much oblig'd to his Majesty, for the Advice in your Letter. He has receiv'd four from *Brassels* signifying the same thing. In case the King of *England* accepts of *Boisleduc* or *Breda*, he designs to continue at the *Hague*. He desir'd me to return his Thanks in particular to you, and to assure you that he will never depart from his Majesty's Interests, which he thinks so closely united with those of his Masters.

He is well pleas'd with what you told Mons. *Puffendorf*, in relation to the Seditious Letters written by the Mediators.

The Count *de Dobna*, to whom I complain'd of the *Sieur Appleboom* for not communicating that Letter to me; has assur'd me, it shall be remedy'd for the future, and told me that the Mediators in theirs of the 18th say, the King of *England* grows more tractable, and that they hope they shall make him recede from his Nomination of the *Hague*. Since I am like to have no dealing with him, upon the Account of his demanding the right hand in my House, I shall apply my self upon Occasion to the Count *de Dobna*: I see no likelihood as yet of his succeeding in his Negotiation; since he seems positive not to agree to the Act of Neutrality in the Form the States desire it, and persists in his Demand

mand of having the King his Master's Subjects exempted from the Duties in *Sweden*, which all Strangers shall be oblig'd to pay, and this would infallibly ruin the Trade of *Amsterdam*, and *North Holland*, to the North. These Oppositions make me almost despair of creating a right Understanding between those two States; however, nothing shall be wanting on my side to effect it; but I must wait with Patience 'till their first Conferences are over. I shall be sure to omit nothing on my Part, being thoroughly sensible how much it is for his Majesty's Interest to have *Sweden* and *Holland* in good Terms together.

We have intercepted a Dispatch from *l'Isola* to *Friguet*, wherein he tells him, that it's Mons. de Wit's desire to have him at the *Hague* as Minister from the Emperor; and that he's preparing to set out for that Place accordingly; that he can assure him, the King of *England* has a very great Esteem for Mons. de Wit, and that he is sincere as to the Peace; that my Lord *Arlington* sent him a Note at eleven a Clock at Night, desiring him to go wait on the King the Moment he receiv'd it; that he was with his Majesty 'till two in the Morning; that the King told him, he would be content with one of the three Places nam'd, in case the King and the States declar'd, that they would surrender the Islands in *America*, and that of *Polemon* to the *English*; that it was *Friguet's* Business to press that Affair strenuously at the *Hague*, as a thing that ought to be previous to the Nomination of a Place; that as soon as he had dispatch'd some other Affairs he had in Commission in *England*, he would come himself to the *Hague*, and assist him.

He adds, that his main design for the Service of his Master, and the Security of the Peace, is to procure a good Understanding between *England*, the States, and the Allies, as the only means to preserve the *Low-Countries*, in case they should come to be attack'd by *France*; that he finds the King of *England* and his Masters well inclin'd to so good a Design, and that he had great
 Hopes

Hopes of Succeeding; this Dispatch was seal'd up again, and deliver'd as directed. The next Day Monsieur *de Wit* went and pay'd *Friquet* a Visit, who communicated to him the Contents of his Letters, giving him to understand at the same time, that he was desirous to have Mons. *l'Isola* at the *Hague*. Mons. *de Wit* told him it was false, and desir'd him to send *l'Isola* word, that he never so much as heard it mention'd, and that he might be assur'd, that if the Emperor should send him such a Commission, he was resolv'd never to enter into any Negotiations with him; and that the best Council he could give him was to stay where he was, assuring him before hand, that he would meet with no favourable Reception from his Masters. After this *Friquet* discours'd him about the Restitution of *Paleron*, and the *American* Islands. Mons. *de Wit* reply'd, that he might likewise inform *l'Isola*, that the States were resolv'd to stand it out to the last Penny, and the last drop of Blood, in defence of those Islands, if the King was inclin'd to keep 'em, and that he would not have him flatter himself with a Notion, that the States would perswade his Majesty to restore 'em; that as for *Paleron*, if the *English* would restore all they had taken from the States, they would do the like; otherwise each Party was to retain what they had possess themselves of during the War, and he wish'd *l'Isola* would know it was not so bad with the King nor the States, as to be hector'd into Conditions before a Nomination of the Place of Treaty.

Friquet took no notice of the other Part of his Letter. Tho' Mons. *de Wit* thinks the Secret very safe with you, yet he can't but recommend it to you once more, because very few People know by what means he comes at these Letters.

From

From the King to the Count D'Estrades,
April 1, 1667.

IN Answer to yours of the 24th last, I must tell you, that Monsi. *de Wit* must of necessity have discours'd with you concerning the Nomination of the *Hague*, and the Sentiments of some of the Provinces, especially *Zealand*, in quite different Terms from what he writes to Monsi. *van Beuningen*; for according to your Account things can't be in a worse Condition than you have represented 'em; the Fleet wants no less than thirty Sail of the usual Complement, and five of the Provinces have refus'd to contribute any more to the Charges of the State, unless the *Hague* be accepted for the Place of Treaty. You in your Zeal propose to have the War continued by my self and *Holland*, and yet seem to be in a doubt whether that Province will undertake it unless supported with very considerable Supplies from hence; and there is so great a Division throughout the Country, that you are affraid they will clap up a Peace all of a sudden, and that Monsi. *de Wit* was never attack'd by so many Difficulties before; and yet his Letter to the Sieur *van Beuningen*, which he has shewn to Monsi. *de Lionne*, mentions nothing of all this, but expresses an entire Confidence, that all things are like to go well; he speaks of nothing but continuing the War with Vigour, and seems to say the States Fleet will be stronger and better provided this Year than it was the last. As to *Zealand*, he has sent that Province's Resolution to Monsi. *van Beuningen*, of which you will find a Copy subjoin'd, in which if it be true, and not design'd to impose upon me, there's not the least mention of their refusing to contribute their Quota; but when they come to speak of the Nomination of the *Hague*, they add, Provided the Parties concern'd (and sure this must have regard to me) can readily and easily agree to it. All this makes me willing to hope, that

that after you had dispatch'd your Courier to me, you inform'd the States of my last Resolutions, in relation to the stubbornness of the *English*, who are for the *Hag* or nothing; and brought 'em to themselves, by representing to 'em how much their Heats retarded the Peace of which they seem'd so fond, and gave our Enemies room to hope all this wou'd necessarily conclude in Division between us.

I have this Day order'd the *Sieur Pomponne* to endeavour all he can to engage *Sweden* under a Writing to continue Neuter during this present War, to the end I may be able to give the States-General such a Guarantee, as I have already given the King of *Denmark*, and put an end to the Contest that has been so long on Foot between that Crown and the *United Provinces* on that score, and which has hitherto been the chief Obstacle to their Accommodation. In the mean time, supposing the thing impossible to miscarry, I expect you shou'd forward and support, as much as you are able, the other Affairs the Count *de Dohna* is charged withal, and endeavour in the first place to remove those Jealousies that are like to prove our greatest Obstructions.

From the Count de Dohna to the King:
April 7, 1667.

I Found it no hard task to perswade *Monf. de Wit* to agree to what I did myself the Honour to write to your Majesty the 25th of the last Month; at the same time I gave him to understand it was not well in him to say one thing to me, and write quite contrary to *Mr. van Beuningen*: His Answer was, that your Majesty having declared to *Monf. van Beuningen* that these Divisions in the Provinces wou'd in the end oblige your Majesty to prevent 'em, and come to an Accommodation with *England*; *Monf. van Beuningen* perceiving how Matters were like to be carry'd, and that your

Majesty

Majesty might be made to believe, that things were not in the Confusion they were represented, made use of the second Letter, which Monsieur *de Wit* sends him ev'ry Post to be communicated by him to Mons. *Boreel*; but that in his first Dispatch, design'd particularly for Mons. *van Beuningen's* own Information, he had represented ev'ry thing in the same Condition, both he and my self, who are upon the spot, are sensible they are in.

I may add to your Majesty, it's impossible for Mons. *de Wit* impose upon me in these Matters, because the Condition of the Provinces, the Demands of the Admiralties, the several Quotas towards the Subsistence of the Troops, and the Oppositions the Provinces make upon such Occasions, are too publick to suffer me to be misled; the Reasons they ev'ry Moment alledge for those Oppositions, and their declaring that in case the *Hague* be rejected, they will no longer contribute to the Expences of the War, these are Facts too notorious to be doubted or deny'd.

I only mention this to your Majesty, to let you see that I had good reason for what I then wrote; but the Face of Affairs is turn'd since that; for the States signify'd to me by their Deputies three Days ago, that the Provinces had empower'd their Deputies to conform themselves to your Majesty's Sentiments in the refusal of the *Hague*, and gave me to understand that they never had any design to break the Union, but only to express their dislike of the Proceeding in the States who wrote to the King of *England*, without communicating the Contents of their Letter to the Provinces, and which for that reason was contrary to the usual Form. Since this, the Mediators have sent an Express to the Count *de Dohna* with Letters for the States, which he immediately communicated to me. Your Majesty will be pleas'd to observe from the inclosed Copy, that the King of *England* has accepted of *Breda* for the Place of Treaty, and has demanded Pass-ports for his Ambassadors accordingly.

The States acquainted me with it Yesterday by their Deputies, and that they design to send me the Pass-ports after to morrow; your Majesty having consented to the Nomination of one of these Places, I thought it my Duty to conform my self to what they had resolv'd.

To Day they have been deliberating what Person to chuse as Deputy for *Holland*: *Monsr. Beverning* has been named; and each Province has nominated a Deputy. I observe here a great impatience among the People to begin the Treaty, and at the same time a Resolution in *Holland* to refuse the Restitution of *Poteron*; 'tis likewise visible that all the Towns are disposed to desire your Majesty to preserve the Islands you have conquer'd in *America*; and give me leave to observe upon this Occasion, that in case those Islands shou'd be restored to the *English*, the *West-India* Company here will be in danger of being entirely ruin'd; for it's certain, that besides the Loss of their Credit, the *English* will watch their Opportunity of thrusting 'em quit out, to prevent the like Accidents for the future. I only take upon me to write to your Majesty what I hear discours'd in this Place, that I may be thought to omit nothing that may conduce to your Service; and well knowing that whatever I write from hence falls short of that thorough Insight your Majesty has in these sort of Affairs.

Tho' the Provinces pretend to a perfect Harmony among themselves, yet I have made some Observations, that incline me to doubt it. The Provinces of *Frize*, *Guedres* and *Overissel*, who ought to have paid in their Quota to the Arrears due to the King of *Denmark*, and which the Deputies of *Holland* had undertaken to perswade 'em to, have answer'd that they are not able to do it, insomuch that the Deputies are return'd without obtaining any thing in that particular.

The Province of *Zealand*, instead of 17 large Ships that they used to fit out ev'ry Year, pretend now that they

they are unable to furnish any more than eight, which is a great Diminution; the rest of the Admiralties are hard at Work, and Mons. de Ruyter told me Yesterday, that he hoped *Holland* and *Friseland* wou'd send 60 Ships to Sea this Summer.

Your Majesty's Squadron will not be a despicable one; they are very busy at Work about it, and the Sieur *du Mas*, who has the Direction of it, acts with a great deal of Diligence and Application.

What your Majesty told Mons. *van Benningen*, that if these Divisions continued among the States, your Majesty wou'd be obliged to close in with *England*; will be of great use to preserve a good Intelligence between the Deputies at *Breda*; and Monsieur *de Wit*, who has already made his Advantage of it, wou'd not for anything but it had happen'd; for a Man that wou'd treat to any purpose with these People must vary, and conform himself to different Characters. As soon as I am inform'd what Complaints the *Swedes* make upon the seizing of their Ships, I shall take care to give your Majesty an Account of 'em. They may conclude the Act of Neutrality as soon as they think fit, for Mons. *de Wit* told me this Morning, he did not doubt but his Masters wou'd agree to the Expedient proposed by your Majesty. We shall find it no difficult matter to disengage the States from the Jealousies they have entertain'd of *Sweden*, and which are improv'd upon the Reports made by Messieurs *Isband* and *Heinsius*, who are in great Credit with their Masters, and at the same time but ill inclin'd to the *Swedes*; they seem to suspect whatever I offer to say upon that Head. However, I shall endeavour all I can to remove these Prejudices, as conceiving an Union between the States and your Crown to be of great Importance to the common Cause.

I most humbly thank your Majesty for the leave you have been pleas'd to give me of reimbursing my self out of *Dunkirk*. Nothing but the present ill Posture of my Affairs cou'd force me to such a Request. I

shall add this to the many other Obligations your Majesty's Bounty has been pleas'd to lay upon me, and of which I shall be truly sensible as long as I live.

Just as I was going to finish this Letter, *Mons. de Wit* came in to show me the Draught of the Answer the States design to make the King of *England*; and since the time for the Ambassadors getting to *Breda* is not there specified, I told him I thought it ought to be prolong'd to the tenth of *May*, to the end your Majesty and the King of *Denmark* might have sufficient notice to send your Ambassadors thither likewise; because shou'd the *English* have time to tamper with the States Deputies before the Arrival of the other Ministers, I was affraid their Conferences might prove prejudicial to the States and the Allies. He approv'd of what I said, and has promis'd to make a Report of it to his Masters. He at the same time demanded a Pass-port for the Ships employ'd in transporting the Ambassadors and their Retinue, for fear the *Dunkirk* Frigates shou'd fall upon 'em, with which I readily comply'd; tho' I told him at the same, I thought it unnecessary, because I did not question but the King of *England* had no sooner agreed to let *Breda* be the Place of Treaty, but that he had obtain'd Pass-ports from your Majesty to the same purpose. I am, &c.

The States-General of the United-Provinces to the King of Great Britain :
April 7, 1667.

S I R,

Nothing cou'd more effectually convince us of the Aversion your Majesty has to the Effusion of Christian Blood, than the readiness with which you have been pleas'd to answer ours of the 24th of *February* last,

list, and the Terms in which you have express'd your self in your Majesty's of the 18th of *March* old Style. We are willing to answer your Majesty's Demands with the same readiness, and are dispatching the necessary Pass-ports for the Lord *Holls*, and Mr. *Coventry*, whom your Majesty has been pleas'd to nominate your Ambassadors at the ensuing Treaty at *Breda*; they are drawn up in the most ample and best form we cou'd contrive, and we make no doubt but your Majesty will approve of 'em, because we have moreover expedited 'em with a good Intention, and a Desire that those Gentlemen in their Passage, and at the Place of Treaty, should not only meet with all reasonable Security, but be treated with a Civility and Respect due to their Characters, and to Persons sent on so good and laudable a Design; for which Reason, and that we may be the better able to acquit our selves in this respect, we beseech your Majesty to give us timely notice of the Day the Ambassadors design to set out from *England*, and of the Place where they propose to Land, that we may be able to give necessary Orders for their Reception. And since it was much against our Inclinations that we enter'd into this present War, we beseech God to prosper the ensuing Negotiation, and to Crown your Majesty with the choicest of his Blessings. We are,

S I R, &c.

Pass-port for the Lord Hollis and Mr. Coventry, the King of England's Ambassadors.

THE King of *Great Britain* having been pleas'd to appoint the Lord *Hollis*, a Member of his Privy-Council, and Mr. *Coventry*, one of the Gentlemen of his Bed-Chamber, to be his Majesty's Ambassadors at *Breda*, there to treat with the Deputies of the States

and the Ministers of such other Potentates, as are engaged in the present War, and having by his Letter dated at *Whitehall* the 18th of *March* old Style, desired our Pass-ports for that purpose; we the States-General of the *United Provinces*, expressly command and enjoin all our Generals, Admirals, Vice-Admirals, Commandores, Governors of Cities, Towns, Fortresses, Wardens of our Ports, Bridges, Garrisons, all our Justices and Officers by Sea and Land, and in general all our Subjects, and Persons in our Service, to grant free and safe Passage to the said Lords Ambassadors, with three or four Man of War, and as many Pinks design'd to transport their Persons and Equipage, without any Molestation whatsoever, either by Sea or Land, in any Parts under our Dominions, from the Coasts of *England* to the said Town of *Breda*; neither shall they, during their Abode there, nor at their return, after the Conclusion of the Peace, or breaking off of the Treaty, which God forbid, suffer any Trouble, Let, or Inconvenience in their Persons or Equipage, Arms, Horses or Baggage, all and ev'ry of which we take into our particular Safeguard and Protection, and command that all Favour, Aid and Respect be paid unto 'em. Given at the *Hague*, &c. *April 7, 1667.*

From the King to the Count D'Estrades:
April 8, 1667.

BEfore I had receiv'd yours of the 31st of *March* last, by which I perceive that the Minds of the People begin to grow cool, and that there is no longer room to apprehend any ill Effect from their late Divisions, the Earl of *St. Albans* inform'd me, that the King his Master had at last receded from his Demand of the *Hague*, and had accepted of *Breda* for the Place of Treaty, offering to send my Lord *Hollis* and Mr. *Coventry* his Plenipotentiaries thither, and proposing

ing to dispatch 'em away as soon as he should receive the necessary Pass-ports for that purpose; which obliged me to deliver mine to my Lord of St. Albans, who demanded 'em of me, and I believe they will be got to London by to Morrow. This Condescension in the King of Great Britain, which I understand has much surpriz'd and perplex'd *l'Isola*, who was under no Apprehensions of it, will entirely dissipate those Clouds that hung hovering over the Provinces upon the Nomination of the *Hague*, so warmly insisted upon by the English at the Instigation of *l'Isola*, who promis'd 'em mighty Advantages from it; this likewise makes me imagine the King of Great Britain will come in good earnest into the Peace, but whether I am right in this Conjecture Time must discover.

In the mean time I can't sufficiently express how much Monsieur *de Wit*'s free and honest Behaviour has obliged me, tho' indeed very reasonable, and much for the Service of his Masters, when he not only acquainted you with the Particulars of *l'Isola*'s new Contrivance in England, of coming himself to the *Hague* under the Pretence of offering the Emperor's Mediation, but in reality to retard the Conclusion of the Peace, and embroil the Allies, but moreover declared to *Friquet*, that tho' his Colleague pretended Monsieur *de Wit* desired to see him, it wou'd be better for him to keep where he was; that shou'd he come to the *Hague* he wou'd never see him, nor have any Correspondence with him, and that he shou'd meet with a very indifferent Reception from his Masters. Fail not of assuring Mons. *de Wit* that I am highly obliged to him in this particular, and that should *l'Isola*, who fell ill just as he was upon his Departure, come into the United Provinces, I shall defy all his Artifices, whether they are design'd to interrupt the Negotiations of Peace, or level his Blow at me, with which he has been pleas'd to threaten me, being confident of Monsieur *de Wit*'s Affection towards me, and encouraged by the fresh Assurances he has given you of never quitting my Inter-

rests; which, as he saith, shall be effectually for the Service of his Masters. You may moreover confirm to him the Promise you had given him of preserving the Interception of *Friquet's* Letters as an inviolable Secret; for as for *l'Isola's* Voyage, his long Conferences with the King of *England* and his Ministers; his design of setting a Negotiation on Foot at the *Hague*, to unite the King of *England* and the States in an Alliance, under a pretence of preserving the *Low-Countries*, all this I had been acquainted with by the way of *Brussels*, before I had receiv'd your Letter, with another Circumstance particular enough, which either *Mons. de Wit* doth not know, or he forgot to inform you of it, or you to acquaint me with it; which is, that the King of *England* has privately given *l'Isola* a Credential Letter, which obliged me to reproach the Earl of *St. Albans*, when he came to demand the Pass-ports, for that his Master, who protested he desired nothing more than the Peace, and promised to act sincerely in it, had arm'd so Artificial a Man as *l'Isola* with so dangerous a Weapon as a Credential Letter, which he might explain upon Occasion as he pleas'd himself, and as his Masters Interest should require, which must be either to continue the War, or to create greater Misunderstandings than ever between us after the Conclusion of the Peace; and you ought to observe to *Mons. de Wit*, that this doth not in the least infringe the promise of Secrecy you had made him, because he himself knew nothing of the Reasons upon which this Reproach is grounded. In the mean time I must tell you *Monsieur de Wit* will not act like himself, if in case that Letter ever comes to be produced, he should give any Credit to the Bearer, who is known to be a thorough Dissembler, and the greatest Cheat in Nature.

Shou'd the Peace be concluded, the Act of Neutrality, which the States demand of *Sweden*, will be of no Use; wherefore, supposing it to be a thing certain, they ought to come to things more essential in the
 Count

Count *de Dohna's* Negotiations, which you are to forward with your Interest, and good Offices on both Sides, that an end may be put to the Differences between 'em.

The Emperor's Resident not long since offer'd his Master's Mediation; my Answer was, that I thank'd the Emperor for the desire he express'd of re-establishing the publick Tranquility, and excus'd my self with some Appearance of concern that I cou'd not accept the Mediation, with which I shou'd have been extreamly pleas'd, but that the Crown of *Sweden* was already in Possession of it, by consent of all Parties concern'd, and to their Satisfaction, through the good Conduct of that Prince's Ambassadors at *London*.

From the Count D'Estades to the King:
April 14, 1667.

I Have receiv'd the Honour of your Majesty's Letter, dated the 8th Instant. Monsieur *de Wit* is thoroughly perswaded, that the Secret will be punctually observ'd, and lies under no manner of Apprehensions upon that score. He assures me he had no Knowledge of *l'Isola's* Credential Letter, and that if he had he wou'd have imparted it to me; he understands, that notwithstanding *Friquet's* Advice, *l'Isola* persists in his Resolution of coming to the *Hague*. If he offers to present the Letter to him, his Answer will be, that it can be to no purpose since he is resolv'd to have no Transactions with him, and will behave himself in the manner he has already declared.

I most humbly thank your Majesty for naming me one of your Plenipotentiaries for the Peace. It shall be my endeavour to observe and execute with all faithfulness the Orders your Majesty shall be pleas'd to give me in your Instructions, and to evidence in all my Actions, how much Zeal and Passion I have for your Majesty's Service.

The

The last Letters from *England* intimate that their Ambassadors are to make very high Demands, to which the States have resolv'd to return 'em as haughty Answers, and this seems to give us no promising hopes of a successful Treaty.

Monsieur *Clingenberg* has receiv'd a Commission, constituting him his Master's Plenipotentiary for the Peace; as soon as he had signify'd it to me, he demanded to be treated as an Ambassador, I told him, I wou'd write for your Majesty's Orders about it.

Monsieur *de Wit* and he told me, that the King of *Denmark*, who stands engaged by a former Treaty with the King of *England*, to break with all those that shou'd be at War with him, wou'd be very glad to be releas'd from that Engagement; to which end Monsieur *Clingenberg* has receiv'd Orders to demand a Suppression of that Article in the ensuing Treaty. Monsieur *van Benningen* and Monsieur *Pettecum* are to Discourse your Majesty about it.

The Count *de Dohna* has had two Conferences with the States Deputies upon the subject of his Memorial: Whilst both sides insist upon Points so very opposite, 'tis no easie matter to approach 'em. Before I shall be able to do any thing to the purpose with 'em, I must let 'em Contest it a little between themselves, for 'twill be otherwise impossible to make 'em listen to me with any manner of Patience. I shall do all I'm able to remove their ill grounded Jealousies, and dispose 'em to enter into a good Confidence of each other.

Monsieur *van Benningen* has receiv'd Orders from the States, to inform your Majesty that the Count *de Dohna's* Project, in behalf of *Sweden*, is contrary to that the *Sieur Isbrant* had prepared before his Departure. Besides the Act of Neutrality, there are three other Articles that render the Treaty of *Elbing* void, and form new Elucidations at the same time that the States had abrogated the old ones, which gives 'em a great Distaste. As it's customary with the *Swedes* to vary frequently from their first Propositions, and recede from the Extravagance

travagance of their Demands, it is to be hoped they will do so now, otherwise I have but small hopes of the present Negotiation.

From the King to the Count D'Estrades ;
April 15, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 7th Instant. The *Sieur van Beuningen* never told us here, that he had other Letters of a different Tenor from those he shew'd us, and which I told you did no ways agree with the Account I receiv'd from you of the great Dangers *Mons. de Wit* apprehended from the Divisions in the Provinces; but since the King of *England's* Acceptance of *Breda*, instead of the *Hague*, has in all Probability put an end to those Disturbances, 'twill be hardly worth our while to enquire farther into that Affair, only Care must be taken that the like Accident doth not happen in the ensuing Negotiations of Peace.

From my last to you, wherein I told you, my Lord *St. Albans* had demanded Pass-ports for the *English* Ambassadors, and that I had deliver'd 'em him accordingly, you will be able to judge how prudently you acted in conforming your self to the Sentiments of the States, when they acquainted you with their Resolution of sending their Pass-ports into *England*; but to tell you the truth, I am not well pleas'd with the choice the Province of *Holland* has made of the *Sieur de Beuvring* to be their Plenipotentiary at *Breda*; for I can't forget his Behaviour at *Cleves*, where he not only appear'd very averse to my Interest, but acted like a Creature of the Elector of *Brandenbourg*, and a partial Friend to the House of *Orange*. These Inclinations may prove very dangerous to the present Government of the States, being to negotiate with a King that is Uncle to the Prince of *Orange*, and whose chief Desire and Interest it is to see his Nephew advanced

to the Post of his Ancestors: For this reason I'm much surprized to find Monsieur *de Wit* come into this Choice, which he ought to have opposed with all his Power. But if the thing be so far gone as to be irretrievable, the best way will be to be silent, without discovering any Uneasiness at it; only you may in private admonish Monsr. *de Wit* of it, that he may be upon his Guard, and that this Man's Conduct may have no unhappy Effects.

I am not yet determin'd what to do in relation to the Island of *St. Christophers*; and tho' you tell me the *French West-India Company* will be in danger of being absolutely ruin'd, in case the Islands shou'd be restor'd to the *English*, I can't see any reason for such a Suggestion; since the King of *England* demands nothing farther than to be re-establish'd in that part of the Island of *St. Christophers*, which he was possess'd of before the War, and makes no mention of the other Islands my Troops have taken; because being sensible that they had been taken from the *Dutch* by his Subjects during the same War, he has no manner of Pretence to 'em upon the Terms of the ensuing Treaty; and since this is the case, I can't, as I observ'd before, see any risk our Company runs of being undone, supposing I shou'd deliver up that part of *St. Christophers* that always did belong to the *English*.

Neither I, nor any by my Order, ever told Monsieur *van Beuningen*, that these Divisions in the States wou'd make me close in with the *English*; if I had, I shou'd certainly have acquainted you with a thing of so great Consequence. Probably that Minister, out of his Zeal, and to oblige the Provinces to unite in their Opinions, has gone farther in his Expressions, than any thing he has heard from me cou'd reasonably warrant him to do. However I am in no measure displeas'd at it, since Monsr. *de Wit* tells you he has made his Advantage of it, and that it serv'd to bring the Provinces to a right Understanding.

I cou'd wish you had not put off the opening of the Assembly so long as to the tenth of *May*. I

am apt however to believe, that both your Meaning and that of *Monf. de Wit* is, that shou'd the Ministers concern'd arrive sooner at *Breda*, they may enter upon Business out of Hand; for as for waiting for the King of *Denmark's* Ministers, I conclude that those who are upon the spot in *Holland* have receiv'd the necessary Powers and Instructions long since. My Lord *St. Albans*, who came Yesterday to enquire if the Letters from *Holland* by this Week brought any Account that the Nomination of *Breda* was notify'd there, and if the States had resolv'd to send the Passports his Master demanded, told me, a Man might set out in the Morning from *London*, and lye that Night at *Breda*; which obliges me to give Orders for the *Sieur Courtin's* immediate Departure, and that you hold your self in such a Readiness for your Journey, that the moment you hear the *English* Ministers are arriv'd at *Breda*, you may be able to be with 'em the Day following, without staying for *Courtin*, that they may not, if possible, be a Minute in the Assemblies without one of my Ministers being there likewise to observe what passes between them and the *Dutch*; and in this case you know it's the Custom of all Countries, that the last Comer is first visited by those who were upon the Place before him.

There's no need of sending you the Passport *Monf. de Wit* mention'd, because I have already dispatch'd such as the *English* Ambassadors can stand in need of for the Security of their Persons, Horses, Baggage, and Domesticks.

*His most Christian Majesty's Letter to the
States-General of the United Provinces :
April 17, 1667.*

MOST Dear and High Friends, Allies and Confederates, you sent us some time since two Letters, desiring us to order our Parliament of *Paris* to re-
vise

vise a Process depending between one *Gonings*, one of your Subjects, and the *Sieur le Fevre Banker at Paris*, which had been decided in favour of the said *le Fevre* by peremptory Sentences; notwithstanding which, *le Fevre* was forbid to pursue the Execution of the said Sentences in *Holland*.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King :
April 21, 1667.

AS soon as we hear of the *English* Ambassador's Departure, the States Deputies and my self design to set out in the same Yatch, and arrive at *Brade* together. I am preparing my Equipage and Liveries with all possible Diligence, to the end I may not make a less Figure than the *English* Ambassadors, and those of *Denmark*, who I understand design to appear in great Magnificence.

Before I had receiv'd the Honour of your Majesty's Commands, I had been discoursing Monsieur *de Wis* upon the *Sieur Beverning* being made one of the Plenipotentiaries; he was chosen to it by Monsieur *de Wis* himself, who has undertaken to answer for his Conduct, and that he shall do nothing contrary to his Orders.

We are endeavouring to perswade the Provinces to send only four Deputies to the Treaty, instead of one from each Province; some of 'em have already consented, but some others, who are willing to have some of their Friends employ'd, have refus'd. This Affair is now under Consideration, and will probably be determin'd this Evening.

Zealand is entirely come over, and acts as one could wish at present; only that Province will not have so many Ships at Sea this Summer, as it had the last. All the Admiralties are hard at Work, and they hope to have the Fleet at Sea by the 15th of *May*. Your Majesty's Squadron will be ready to Sail at the same time; the Stores, and Officers that are to command in it, arriving every Day.

Monf.

Monf. *Amerongen* is fet out for *Denmark* to hasten the Fleet there, that they may be able to join the *Dutch*, in case the Peace should not succeed.

Tho' *Friquet* sent two Expresses to *Brussels* to find *l'Isola*, and advise him not to come to the *Hague*, where he would meet with an indifferent Reception, he came as far as *Dort*, and try'd if it was possible for him to speak with Monf. *de Wit*, who absolutely refus'd him. After which *Friquet* went to see him, and to send him to *Brussels*. At his return he waited on Monf. *de Wit*, and told him, that the King of *England* having entrusted *l'Isola* to procure a good Agreement between *England* and *Holland*, he wish'd he could have seen him, and have assur'd him how great an Esteem he has for his Person; but since that could not be done, he told him by way of Secret, that he was order'd not to insist upon the Restitution of *Poleton*, if he found the States resolv'd to keep it, but that the King of *England* was resolv'd never to make a Peace without the Restitution of those Islands your Majesty has conquer'd in *America*.

Monf. *de Wit* reply'd, that it was to no purpose for the King of *England* to renounce his Pretensions to *Poleton*, unless he did the same by those Islands in *America*, since the States were resolv'd to continue the War 'till your Majesty had receiv'd full Satisfaction in that Point. Upon this *Friquet* answer'd, that then he saw no probability of a Peace, and that neither the King of *England*, or *l'Isola*, believ'd the States would break upon a point that did not regard 'em.

Monf. *de Wit* told him again, that he ought to undeceive the King of *England*, and all those that fancy'd the States would ever come to any Agreement, 'till your Majesty had receiv'd a full Satisfaction in all your Pretensions. What, said *Friquet*, had you rather continue the War, than contribute to the restoring the Islands the *English* have lost in *America*? Monf. *de Wit* reply'd, that his Masters would not only continue the War upon that score, but would also advise your Majesty not to restore 'em; at which *Friquet* seem'd very

ry much surpriz'd. *Monf. de Wit* ask'd him, if *l'Isola* did not tell him that he had a Letter for him from the King of *England*; he said he only told him, that that Prince had order'd him to assure *Monf. de Wit* of the Affection and Esteem he had for his Person and Merit. I beseech your Majesty that this may be a Secret, for these are Particulars that the Deputies for secret Affairs themselves are not acquainted with.

He afterwards show'd me a Letter from *van Beuningen*, wherein he tells him, that he had been assur'd by *Monf. de Lionne*, that your Majesty would undertake nothing in behalf of the Queen's Pretensions without advising the States of it, and that your Majesty had rather come to an Agreement than Rupture; that he, *van Beuningen*, is of Opinion, the States ought to prevail with the Imperial Ministers to write to their Master to dispose the *Spaniards* to such an Accommodation, as may be satisfactory to your Majesty, and at the same time preserve the Peace of the *Low-Countries*.

Whereupon *Monf. de Wit* is resolv'd himself to speak to *Friquet* about it, and oblige him to write to the Emperor. He ask'd me, if I knew what your Majesty expected by way of Accommodation. I answer'd him, that having never been let into that Affair, I could not tell what Country or what Towns your Majesty would demand.

The Count *de Dohna*, and the Commissioners for the States, resolv'd in their last Conference, to put in Writing the contested Points, and their Reasons on both sides, and then to show 'em to me; I hope, by altering some Terms, at which the States boggle, and which do not sufficiently express that the Treaty of *Elbing* is still to subsist, I shall be able to bring 'em nearer together than has been hitherto done. I shall omit nothing in my Power, but will act with equal Affection on both Sides, in order to Establish an Union between 'em, which I am sensible will be for your Majesty's Interest. I observe in 'em a Disposition to enter into the Quadruple Alliance; but the properest time to

move

move that, will be when *Sweden* and the States are agreed.

From the King to the Count D'Estrades :
April 22, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 14th Instant. The *Sieur Courtin* left *Paris* on *Tuesday* last, and I have order'd him to be as *Expeditious* as possible. I had both your Instructions read to him before his Departure, but was unwilling to trust him with a Copy of 'em, for fear the Governor of *Flanders* might play some Tricks with him in his Passage. I gave him a Duplicate of the Power, in which you are both nam'd, because it will be of no great Importance if that piece is seen, or indeed taken from him, provided that which I am now sending you comes safe, as I hope it will. When you are met, you may give him a Copy of the Instructions.

You will find in the last Articles what you are to do ; in the mean time the Chancellor *Hyde* has given an Answer to the pretended Credential Letter deliver'd to *l'Isola*. *Mont. de Wit* has done well to assure you, that that Letter should be of no use to the Bearer, with whom he design'd to enter into no manner of commerce, but he never told you whether he would receive it or no; and indeed I'm of Opinion, that if he refus'd it, he would thereby convince a dangerous tricking Minister, for such is *l'Isola*, that he has enter'd upon a wrong Scheme, and that he will infallibly fall short of his Designs; and tho' a Prince may be allow'd to write to a State, with whom he's at War, in order to forward a Peace; yet a private Person, tho' chief Minister in that State, may upon just Grounds refuse to receive any such Letters, especially when other Princes and States are concern'd, and may take Umbrage at such a Procedure.

I can't believe the *English* Ambassadors have Orders to insist upon very high Demands; if they should, we ought to answer 'em in their own Key. There is more reason to think the Negotiation will be prolong'd upon Account of the Proposition mention'd in *Ruvigny's* Letter of the 5th of *November* last, declaring, that all things should continue in the Condition the Course of the War had left 'em, which would principally and solely regard either the Isle of *Polemon*, or that of *St. Christophers*.

The *Sieur Petitcœur* has set forth the same Pretention here, which *Clingenberg* has done with you, declaring, that my Ambassadors will pay the same Ceremonies to the States Plenipotentiaries, who can't be consider'd as Ambassadors in their own Country. If this be true, I think I may, without any Hesitation, order you and *Courtin* to treat the *Sieur Clingenberg* in the same manner you do the Plenipotentiaries of the States; for one can't in Justice refuse that to the Minister of a King, which we pay to that of a Commonwealth, provided they are of equal Characters. You are only to give *Clingenberg* to understand, that this Ceremony is to continue no longer than whilst his new Character of Plenipotentiary for the Peace continues, that it may not hereafter be made a Precedent to extend to Residents, or Ministers either in Ordinary or Extraordinary.

As to what the *Sieur Clingenberg* and *Mons. de Wit* has told you, of the King of *Denmark's* being engag'd by a Treaty with the King of *England* to break with all such as shall be at War with that Prince, it may be no difficult Matter to get off from that Engagement by the ensuing Treaty; for probably the *English* will be inclin'd to throw it up with Indignation, when they reflect how the King of *Denmark*, who by vertue of the foregoing Treaty ought to have declar'd against *Holland*, sided with *Holland* against *England*: However, if the *English* should persist in the Continuance of that Engagement, I can't think the King of *Denmark* will judge it reasonable to defer the Peace upon that

that single Point. One may however give the *English* to understand before hand, that if the King of *Denmark* should have no mind to renew the former Treaties according to their original Rigour and Restrictions, they have no just Reason to complain; one may easily perswade 'em, as I observ'd before, to give up that Article with Indignation.

You must be sure to hasten the States Deputies as much as possible, and if you can perswade the States to consent that as soon as a requisite Number is arriv'd at *Breda*, they may enter upon Business; for the Fleets will in a short time be ready to Sail, and I believe the States themselves will be apt to think it proper to forward the Negotiations, lest the Accidents of an Engagement should divert the good Dispositions all Parties concern'd seem at present to have for the Peace.

Monsi. de Lionne has read to me, that part of your Letter relating to Monsi. de Wit's Thought, as to the great Hall at *Breda*, where the Conferences may be manag'd. 'Tis not only true as you say, that in the Negotiation for a Truce in the Years 1609, the President *Jeannin* took place of the *English* Ambassadors upon all Occasions, without any difficulty or dispute; but what is more material, a King of *England* coming into *France*, in the Reign of King *Charles VI* or *VII*, that Prince offer'd him the Honour of Precedence in his own Court, but he constantly refus'd it, and contented himself with the second Place; but ever since it came into *Gustavus Adolphus* his Head to maintain an Equality among all Kings, upon a Pretence that they are all equal in Nature and Title; and there was a Necessity at that time for several important Reasons to comply with his Humour, tho' never so unjust: From that time forward all other Kings have plead'd the same pretence, and there is no doubt but the *English* Ambassadors that are design'd for *Breda* have express Orders to do nothing, that may look like giving place to mine, tho' they may with so much Justice demand it. I am of Opinion, that to prevent any Disputes that

may retard a Work so necessary as the Peace of Christendom, the same Method ought to be follow'd as was observ'd at *Munster*, which is still fresh in every ones Memory, that is, either the Treaty may be carry'd on by the Intervention of the Mediators, or by mutual Visits, wherein there can be no disputes, because the Person who receives the Visit, always gives place to him, that comes to pay it; this method will certainly be more expeditious than publick Assemblies, where every one is apt to take too much upon him, and thinks himself indispensably oblig'd to maintain the Dignity, Interest, and Pretences of his Master, without listning to such Reasons as may be offer'd by others, tho' never so cogent. This makes me wonder, the Disputes they usually meet to compose are not rather improv'd and perpetuated in such Assemblies.

However, if when you are upon the Place, several Reasons which I can't foresee should make it necessary, and it's agreed in general among you all, to treat in publick Assemblies, you may consent to it, provided you may have your Choice of the two Apartments which *Monf. de Wit* tells you are at each side of the great Hall at *Breda*; and in this case you are to chuse that which is next the Chimney, if there be any such, which in all likelihood is the most noble and capacious.

The *Sieur Puffendorf* has been soliciting a Pass for six Men of War the King of *Sweden* is sending for Salt into *Portugal*, which are to be freighted from *Sweden* with some Commodities of that Country for *England*; but the King of *Sweden* declares upon his Royal Word they are no Contreband Goods, and for that reason he expects, that the Ships shall be exempt from any Search or Inspection. I at first made some difficulty of granting a Pass, but the *Sieur Puffendorf* having for several Days together insisted upon it, and that with this Circumstance, that the States-General had already granted it, I answer'd, that being more his Master's Friend than the State could be, I would send you my Orders to inform your self of it, and if you found what he
alledg'd

alleg'd to be true, you should write to the *Sieur Pom-
pone*, and tell him my design was to grant the King of
Sweden the same thing, and that he should declare as
much to the Regence. You must therefore take care
to enquire into the Truth of this Matter, and send your
Instructions to *Pompone* accordingly.

Monf. l'Isola has lately made his Brags, that at the same
time that *Monf. de Wit* admonish'd him not to come
to the *Hague*, he advis'd him to instruct *Friquet* pri-
vately with his Proposals, and that the same things
might be transacted by his Means as well, and with
more Secrefie, without giving any Jealousie or Um-
brage to the *French*. I don't believe a Word of it,
but rather ascribe it to one of *l'Isola's* usual Shifts.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : April 22, 1667.*

THE King has commanded *Monf. Colbert* to issue
out an Order for twelve thousand Franks, as an
extraordinary Appointment, the better to enable you
to prepare your Equipage. He has likewise allotted the
same Sum to *Monf. Courtin*, who receiv'd nothing when
he went from hence. I desire you would let him
know as much when you see him. I beg you to de-
cypher the rest of this Letter your self.

His Majesty is verily perswaded the Instruction he
sent you the 25th of *March* last, is fallen word for
word into the Hands of the *Spanish* Ministers, who
have sent it into *England*. His Majesty desires you to
send him word, if you gave a Copy of it to *Monf. de
Wit*, and to let *Monf. de Wit* know, that he must of ne-
cessity have shown it to some one that has betray'd
him, that he may have a Care of the same Person for
the future.

But in case you never gave *Monf. de Wit* a Copy of
it, some of your own Servants must have expos'd it.

and it will be your Duty to examine carefully into the Matter, to discover the Author of such a Treason against his Majesty, and take care the King's Service be no more expos'd to such Treacheries for the future.

This Morning we receiv'd the News of the Pope's Death, by a Courier Cardinal Chigi has sent to Cardinal Roberts, to summon him with all speed to the Conclave.

From the King of Great Britain to their High Mightinesses, the States-General of the United-Provinces: April 22, 1667.

HIGH and Mighty Lords, our good Friends and Allies: We have receiv'd yours of the 7th Instant with the requisite Passports for our Ambassadors. We have read it with the same Affection, and good Will, with which we know you wrote it, and we shall endeavour to evidence to the World the Sincerity of our Inclinations for a Peace, and how much we abhor the Effusion of Christian Blood; which will likewise most effectually appear from the Conduct and Behaviour of our Ambassadors at the ensuing Treaty. We make no doubt but you are equally inclin'd, and have the same Dispositions, to a happy Peace. As an earnest to our Sincerity, we take this Opportunity of declaring, that we accept of the Alternative propos'd by you, of each Party's continuing in Possession of whatever has been acquir'd on either side during the War, which is settled among other things as a Preliminary. We shall order our Ambassadors to proceed in this present Treaty, upon the Foot of that concluded between us in the Year 1662; and forasmuch as you are so kind as to desire to be advis'd of the Day our Ambassadors are to set out from hence, and of the Place where they propose to Land, we take this Opportunity of informing you, that they intend to set out, God willing, on

Monday

Munday the 2d of May, and will make as much haste as the Wind and Weather will allow 'em. They design to Steer to *Flushing*, where we desire that (according to the Offer you have made us) your Yachts, and other Vessels necessary for the transporting our said Ambassadors, their Train and Equipage to *Breda*, may be ready to receive 'em, that as little time may be lost as possible. And so, most High and Mighty Lords, our good Friends and Allies, we pray God to take you into his Holy Protection. Given at *Whitehall*, *April 11*, 1667.

Sign'd, CHARLES R.

G. Morice.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
April 28, 1667.

I Have receiv'd the Honour of your Majesty's dated the 22d Instant, which informs me of *Mons. Cour- tin's* being set out for *Breda*, where he is like to arrive the first of any of the Ambassadors, those from *England* being not to begin their Journey 'till the 2d of the next Month; as your Majesty will observe from the Copy of the King of *England's* Letter to the States, which I enclose with this, and which was joyfully receiv'd by the States, because it gives 'em hopes of an approaching Peace. I intend to set out the next Week, without waiting for the States Plenipotentiaries, who can't be ready so soon, for the Provinces have not yet agreed upon the Persons, nor the Number they are to send. The Province of *Holland* desires there may be no more than three, that is one from thence, and two for *Zealand* and *Frise*, they being the three Maritime Provinces. But the rest insist upon having the Deputation compleat as it was at *Munster*, that is one Deputy from each Province, and two from *Holland*. As

this thing is not yet settled, and *Holland* is endeavouring to persuade the other Provinces to desist from their Pretensions, I can't well guess what time they will be setting out for *Breda*. Your Majesty will be able to judge from this Instance, how difficult it is to deal with these People, even in things of the smallest Moment. The Province of *Zealand* having nam'd their Pensionary *Hubert* for their Plenipotentiary, it looks as if they had something more than the Peace in view at the Treaty. Your Majesty must have seen, from my former Letters, all that pass, either by word of Mouth or in writing, between *l'Isola* and *Friquet*, relating to the King of *England's* pretended Credential Letter; his Journey to *Dort*, in order, as he gave out, to come on to the *Hague*, is a full Instance of the Designs he had form'd of caballing here; but by what I can discover *Mons. de Wis* refus'd to see him, and at the same time gave him to understand, as from his Masters, that he would not be a welcome Man at the *Hague*; whereupon he turn'd back to *Brussels*.

The *Sieur de Wis* has communicated to me a Letter he receiv'd from *Mons. van Benningen*, wherein he seems much concern'd that your Majesty's Fleet is not prepar'd to join that of the States, and that the dispute of the Flag is not yet settled; he thinks the States ought to come to some Regulation with your Majesty touching the Salutes that are to pass between your Majesty and the King of *England*, should that Prince pretend to make the *French* strike; and after the Ships belonging to the States have haled the *English*, if they should refuse to return it, he thinks in this case both your Majesty and the States ought to enter into a Guarantee on both sides; he adds, that he perceives there are strong Appearances of a War upon the Queen's Pretensions, and that to prevent the Umbrages the *United-Provinces* may entertain of an Irruption into the *Spanish* Dominions, he thinks they ought to insinuate to the Emperor, and the King of *Spain's* Ministers, that a proper Satisfaction should be given your Majesty, by yielding up some

Places

Places in the *Low-Countries* that are at some Distance from their Frontiers. As these are Matters of which I have had no Cognisance, nor receiv'd any Orders from your Majesty relating to 'em, I thought not fit to enter into any Conference with Monsieur *de Wit* about 'em; he said he thought it wou'd be for the Service of his Masters to make *Friget* and Don *Estevan de Gamarra* sensible, that they ought to dispose their Masters to give your Majesty a reasonable Satisfaction, because they might probably lose more in time than they need part with at present by an Accommodation.

I endeavour'd as from my self to learn Monsieur *de Wit*'s Sentiments of the King of *England*'s Letter to the States, wherein he accepts of the Alternative, which is the same with the Proposition in Monsieur *de Ruigny*'s Billet. I said I thought the Treaty on their side would quickly be brought to a Conclusion, because he himself had told me the King of *England* was willing to give up *Peleron*, and that *l'Isola* had so explain'd himself to *Friget* at *Dort*; but that for our part we were not in such promising Circumstances, since the King of *England* insisted upon having that part of *St. Christophers* restor'd that belong'd to him before the War broke out, and which your Majesty cou'd not consent to deliver, since it was but reasonable the Alternative should be as favourable to us as them. Upon this he reply'd, it was easie for your Majesty to obtain that Part of *St. Christophers* by the Peace, if you join'd your Fleet with that of the States; that if that was done he wou'd answer for his Masters, that they wou'd never make a Peace with *England* till *St. Christophers* was deliver'd up; but that if these things should be left undecided, there being some grounds for the King of *England*'s Pretensions, it would be a difficult matter to perswade the *Dutch* to come to a Rupture after the Peace is concluded. I then told him, I saw plainly they wou'd quickly come to an Agreement with the *English*, and that we should be left to dispute our Pretensions

Pretensions by our selves. He answer'd me in such a Manner, as made me plainly perceive that so soon as the most reasonable Articles, such as the Alternative, should be agreed upon, the States wou'd represent to Monsieur *Courtin* and my self, the necessity there was of signing the Peace. I think to let it rest there; by this means we shall be able to cut 'em short in their Per-giversations, which I plainly foresee, for I am very well satisfied, from Monsieur *de Wit's* Proposition just now mention'd, the Province of *Holland* will not be in haste to finish the Treaty; and we can agree at last when the Plenipotentiaries of the States come, and tell us they are ready to sign Peace provided your Majesty will quit that part of *St. Christophers* to the *English* that belong'd to 'em formerly; then when they little expect it we'll take 'em at their Word, since your Majesty approves of our dropping this Article, and leave 'em no room to trifle or fly back. I thought it my Duty to inform your Majesty of this Project, and after what manner we propose to follow the Instructions your Majesty has been pleas'd to give us, to the end that if your Majesty approves of our Method, you will be pleas'd to confirm your former Orders by the next Post before the opening of the Assembly.

We shall carry our selves to Mr. *Clingenberg* in the manner your Majesty has prescribed; I have begun it already here at the *Hague*, by refusing him the upper-hand in my own House, and by assuring him that your Majesty, out of the Esteem you have for the King his Master, has commanded me to give it him at *Breda* during the Negotiation, but not afterwards, because other Residents and Envoys Extraordinary may hereafter quote it for a Precedent, and make the same Demands.

I have been discoursing Monsieur *de Wit* about managing the Conferences in the same Method that was observ'd at *Munster*; he consented to it without any difficulty, as he did of allowing us our Choice of the Apartment in the Great Hall at *Breda*; but I think it
my

my Duty to represent to your Majesty, that since you are desirous to have the Peace concluded with as much speed as possible, I think the Method of carrying on the Conferences by the Mediators will prove too tedious, since there must of Necessity be a great deal of time lost in their going backwards and forwards from one Plenipotentiary to another, as it was at *Munster*; and I fear the Deputies of the States may be gained in the Liberty of such private Visits and Conferences; where each Party will take upon 'em to speak what they please freely, and perhaps transact some things, as may be prejudicial to your Majesty's Service; whereas if we treat all together in the Great Hall ev'ry thing may be heard that is spoken, and no Proposition is concluded upon but in the presence of all; and since the principal Points are already agreed, we have no more to do but to prevent the Shifts of such who design to prolong the Treaty, which they will be able to do more easily if it be carry'd on by the Intervention of the Mediators, than if ev'ry thing be transacted at publick Conferences. I shall wait for your Majesty's Orders herein, and *Monf. Courtin* and my self will conform our selves accordingly.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King,

April 1, 1667. Incorrectly dated
should be April 25.

SINCE I concluded my last, I have been inform'd by some of my Friends of the Province of *North-Holland*, that several Incidents are to be flung into the Conferences on purpose to prolong the Negotiation, and that the Treaty of Commerce, which the States pretend must be held at *Breda*, will be a main handle for that design; hereupon I went to *Monf. de Wis* this Morning on purpose to Discourse him upon this Chapter. After several discourses upon indifferent Subjects, I fell into that of the two Papers *Monfieur de Ruvigny*

Ruvigny wrote in *England*, and complemented him upon the Approbation he had given to the Alternative, and the Proposal of signing the Treaty of Peace out of hand, and deferring that of Commerce to be concluded in *England* after the Peace, by Ambassadors sent thither for that purpose. He reply'd, that it was true he had approv'd of those two Propositions, but it appearing by the King's Letter, that he was desirous of getting clear as soon as possible, he thought they were not to make two Businessses of one, but that both the Treaty of Peace and of Commerce ought to be managed both at the same time at *Breda*. This Answer confirm'd me in what I thought I had discover'd before in my Conference with him Yesterday, and of which I have been since assured by some of my Friends; but that I might clear up the matter, so as to be able to take our Measures right from it, I told him, supposing the King of *England* shou'd desire to have the Treaty of Commerce managed in *England*, as *Ruvigny's* Paper gave him grounds of hope it shou'd, there ought to be no difficulty made of giving him that Satisfaction, because your Majesty had engaged for it, and cou'd not well suffer your self to be reproached by the King of *England* on that Account. To this he reply'd, that timely care must be taken to perswade the King of *England* to consent to have the Treaty managed at *Breda*, but if he absolutely insisted upon having it in *England*, he made no doubt but if the King consented to it his Masters wou'd do the same; to which however they were not to agree 'till they had try'd by all manner of Means to have it at *Breda*. I thought this was enough to secure us from having this Article throw in any delays to the Peace; but if your Majesty thinks fit to prepossess the King of *England* in this Matter, and perswade him to demand by his Ambassadors that the Article of Commerce be treated in *England*, this will prevent the design the States may have of perswading the said Ambassadors to consent to have it negotiated at *Breda*.

Monfieur *de Wit* told me, the States had given Orders to the Sieur *van Benningen* to mention to your Majesty a defensive Treaty between your Majesty, the King of *Denmark* and the States, upon the Score of the ensuing Peace, against all Aggressors or Infringers of it, which he thinks will be a means to make *England* more punctually observe it.

He spoke likewise with a great deal of warmth about the joining the two Fleets, which would much contribute to our obtaining what Conditions we pleas'd from the King of *England*; and, as he told me he had observ'd before, would be a certain means to make the *English* part with the Isle of *St. Christophers*, especially when they found they were no longer Masters of the Sea, if your Majesty and the States were of one Mind in that matter; and that his Masters would break with the *English* as often, and whensoever they pretended to oblige the *French* to lower their Topsails. I made him the same Answer with that in my other Letter, but observ'd that these were two Points he had very much at Heart.

The Count *de Dohna* has desir'd, I would endeavour to make Mons. *de Wit* favour the obtaining Passports for five *Swedish* Vessels design'd to fetch Salt from *Portugal*. Accordingly I went and told Mons. *de Wit*, that his helping hand in that Affair would be an Obligation to your Majesty, and a means to expedite the other Matters that are in Treaty between the States, and the Crown of *Sweden*. He reply'd, that for your Majesty's sake he would do all that lay in his Power, upon Condition the Count *de Dohna* would give it under his Hand, that the said Vessels are not loaden with any Masts, Hemp, or other contreband Commodities, for in that case the States would never be brought to consent.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne : April 28, 1667.

I Shan't fail letting *Mons. Courtin* know of the King's Gratitude of 12000 Livres to him, and my self, which comes very seasonable both to the one and the other; and I take this Opportunity of returning my thanks to you for the Share I am sensible you had in the obtaining it. I decypher'd with my own Hand the rest of your Letter, in answer to which give me leave to tell you, that in mine of the last of *March* to the King, I did my self the Honour to acquaint his Majesty, that the States having sent me their Deputies, as I demanded, upon the Division of the four Provinces, I gave them a Copy of his Majesty's to me of the 25th of the same Month, which had been concerted and agreed upon before between *Mons. de Wit* and my self, as a thing absolutely necessary to bring those Provinces to themselves. *Mons. de Wit* told me, (and it's certainly true) that should I only mention the Contents of my Dispatch, without reading it to 'em, or giving 'em a Copy, they would look on all I said as a Contrivance between him and me, and it would consequently be without any effect; but that the only way to set 'em right would be to give 'em a Copy of the Memorial, in which they might plainly see his Majesty's Intentions, and this indeed has succeeded as we desir'd; for I can assure you, Sir, that without this the Provinces of *Frise, Overissel, Groningen* and *Gueldres* had follow'd the Example of *Zealand*, who had register'd their Resolution of complying with the King of *England* in the Choice of the *Hague*.

Mons. de Wit desir'd me to omit in my Extract what related to him, lest the States might conceive there was too good an Understanding betwixt him and *France*; and since the Memorial is founded upon the Disunion of the Provinces, and the desire his Majesty had

had to reunite 'em, I can't think our Enemies being inform'd of the Contents of it. can turn any way to their Advantage; on the contrary I am certain, both the Provinces and the Towns grew into a greater Confidence of the King, when they observ'd the Measures his Majesty had commanded me to take in that Conjunction.

If these People were to be dealt with in another manner, I must confess it would be improper to give 'em Copies of what we propose to 'em; but were it's necessary to back our Words with Demonstrations, 'tis impossible to do otherwise than I have done, as I have had the Honour to observe to you several times heretofore; however, if the King is against giving such Copies in Conjunctions that necessarily require it, I shall avoid it for the future; but then I shall not meet with the same Dispatch; and what I have hitherto done has been by his Majesty's Permission, and with all possible Precaution to prevent the printing and exposing my Memorials, which however is not to be done; for whatever is handed into the general Assembly is first deliver'd to the Deputies at my House, who disperse Copies to their Superiors in the Provinces, by which means the thing must necessarily grow Publick, and this is the Truth of the Matter.

From the King to the Count D'Estrades:
April 29, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 21st Instant, and I wish M^{rs}. de *Wie* may find his Account in the Choice he has made of the *Sieur de Beverning* for one of the Deputies at *Breda*. The last time he was at *Cleves*, he express'd so much Partiality in favour of the House of *Orange*, that I can't think him a proper Person to be employ'd in so important a Negotiation, and wherein he

he has to deal with the Ministers of a King, who is Uncle to the Prince of Orange.

I am extremely pleas'd with what Mons. *de Wit* told you in relation to his Conference with *Friquet*, about what *l'Isola*, whom he refus'd to see, pretended he was charg'd with to him from the King of England. 'Tis true we have Advice here, that *de Wit* did speak with *l'Isola* either at *Gonda*, or some place near it, the first being gone to a Country Seat he has in those Parts, at the same time the other was come to *Dort*, but I give no credit to it; I rather believe what Monsieur *de Wit* told you, of the Constancy wherewith he declar'd to *Friquet*, and bid him communicate it to his Collegue, that the States would never consent to a Peace, 'till I had receiv'd Satisfaction about the Islands in *America*, and he has infinitely oblig'd me in it.

The *Sieur van Benningen* has much insisted upon the Sailing of the two Fleets, and my Answer was, that it might possibly be more prudent to defer it for some time, lest the Methods we took to advance the Peace might prove a Means to destroy the Hopes we had reason to conceive of it, either for that the *English* would be provok'd, and grow desperate, if they saw we pretended to force 'em to it with a high hand, or that the Success of an Engagement might give a turn to the present face of Affairs; but whilst he continu'd to oppose my Reasons, and I was going to submit to his, your last Dispatch arriv'd, by which I found we had both been arguing upon a wrong Bottom, for he suppos'd both Fleets were in a Readiness, and waited only for Sailing Orders, whereas you tell me, That of the States will not be able to put to Sea, notwithstanding all the Diligence and Application of the several Admiralties, 'till the 15th of the next Month at soonest, that is, if we may judge of what is to come by what is past, not 'till the 20th or 25th, or probably not 'till the end of the Month. Now you know, I ought to be very cautious in this particular, and the States ought to be very

very punctual to the Day they propose, considering the Risque my Fleet will unavoidably run, if it should be in the Channel whilst that of the States continued in Harbour; for which reason I order'd 'em to tell *van Benningen*, that I was of Opinion their Fleet ought to put out the 25th precisely, and mine the last Day of the next Month, provided nothing new offer'd between this and that, from the Proceedings at *Breda*, where the Peace might be so far advanc'd, that it would be a Madness to hazard the certain Hopes we might conceive of it, with the uncertain Event of an Engagement. I said, the States Fleet ought to Sail five Days before mine, whose safety depended chiefly upon meeting them within a reasonable time in the Channel.

In the mean time, as to the Project for the Conjunction of the Fleets, concerted with you the beginning of this Year; you may tell *Mons. de Wit*, and the Deputies for secret Affairs, that I entirely agree to it; and that I am of the same Sentiments with Admiral *de Ruyster*, who is of Opinion that nothing positive and certain can be agreed upon for the return of the Fleets in case of an Engagement, because a hundred Accidents may happen, which it's impossible to foresee or provide against, and therefore the only Expedient is to authorise the two Admirals to take such Resolutions in a Council of War, as they upon the Place shall judge most proper for the return and security of the Fleets after an Engagement; so that you may assure 'em, I will send my Orders accordingly to the Duke of *Beaufort*, and pray take care the *Sieur de Ruyster* receives the like from his Masters.

As to what *van Benningen* has written to the *Sieur de Wit*, of *Mons. de Lionne's* telling him I would undertake nothing in Vindication of the Queen's Right, without acquainting the States first with it; you may assure him, that it is my Intention, and that I am resolv'd to stand by it. You may add, that I am no ways inclin'd to create Disturbances, desiring nothing but what is just and reasonable; that when any Propositi-

ons are offer'd me, that are in any degree tolerable, I shall upon all Occasions show, that I am more moderate in my Demands than my Enemies have represented me.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: April 29, 1667.*

BE pleas'd to communicate the King's Dispatch to Monsr. *Comtin* as soon as you see him; his Majesty intending not to write in common to you Both, 'till he hears you are Both at *Breda*.

The King desires you to support the Count *de Dohna*, in his Instances to the States in behalf of a *Frenchman* call'd *Mortagne*, whose Father serv'd formerly in the *Swedish Army*, and has since commanded that of the *Landgravine of Hesse*. He was banish'd *Holland* for a Rape.

*From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
May 5, 1667.*

I Have assur'd Monsr. *de Wis* how well pleas'd your Majesty was with his refusing an Interview with *l'Isola*, and his resolute Answer to *Friget* touching the retaining the Islands your Majesty's Arms have taken this War in *America*; I gave him likewise to understand, that tho' your Majesty had been inform'd he had confer'd with *l'Isola* between *Gouda* and *Dort*, yet you gave no Credit to it, depending rather upon the Sincerity with which he had always acted for your Majesty's Service. He reply'd, that the Informations your Majesty had receiv'd were false, and suggested by his Enemies on purpose to render him suspected; that he had refus'd to see *l'Isola*, or to have any Communication

cation with him; and that he never had any thing communicated to him by *Friquet*, but he immediately came and imparted it to me, to the end your Majesty might have speedy Notice of it; he desir'd me to assure your Majesty, that he would act with the same Sincerity on all Occasions, but that he was surpriz'd at what the *Sieur van Beuningen* has sent him in one of his Letters, in which he tells him, that he is assur'd from several Conjectures, that your Majesty is thoroughly perswaded that he has confer'd with *l'Isola* without acquainting me with it, and that which confirms him in this Opinion is, that when he press'd *Monf. de Lionne* to let him know the Substance of two Conferences he had lately with my Lord *St. Albans*, his Answer was, an Assurance, that they contain'd nothing prejudicial to the Interest of the States; and when he still continu'd to urge him to an Explanation, *Monf. de Lionne* reply'd, that the *Sieur de Wit* had been several times in Conference secretly with *l'Isola*, and that I was never acquainted with it. Upon this *Monf. de Wit* observ'd to me, that he was confident he stood suspected of a thing he abhorr'd, and desir'd me to give your Majesty fresh Assurances of it.

I must still observe to your Majesty what I had the Honour to write to you before, which is, that I am of Opinion the States Fleet won't be ready to Sail before the 20th of this Month; besides, there are 18 large Ships, that won't be able to stir without a strong Wind at Nore-East to swell the Tides, so that their time of Sailing must be very uncertain.

The Deputies for secret Affairs having press'd me to sign the secret Article relating to the Junction of the two Fleets, I conform'd my self to the Terms of your Majesty's of the 19th of *April*, insisting that your Majesty's Fleet was not to enter the Channel before it was certain that the States Fleet was posted in *Calice Road*. But they strongly insisted to have your Majesty's Fleet out of *Brest Haven*, that it might be ready to enter the Channel; as soon as it was known that the *Dutch*

were got to their Station; to this I made no difficulty of consenting, since your Majesty's Fleet could run no manner of Risque by it.

I perceive Mons. *de Wit* and the States are positive, as to the Departure of their Fleet as soon as possible, and to refuse a Suspension of Arms. 'Twill be very difficult to make 'em sensible of what your Majesty has so rightly judg'd, that it's very improper to run the hazard of an Engagement, at a time whilst we are in a fair way of obtaining a Peace; for which reason, instead of trusting to Uncertainties, the Fleets ought to continue in their Harbours, 'till we see what our Negotiations are likely to produce: But both the *Sieur de Wit* and the States are deaf to this way of arguing, and are firmly of Opinion, that it's better to conclude the Peace with our Swords in our Hands, than our Enemies may see we are in a Capacity of renewing the War, in case they don't think fit to agree to reasonable Terms. 'Twill be to no purpose to repeat to your Majesty what I have urg'd upon this subject, since I have omitted nothing I thought proper to convince 'em, which I have still found impossible to be done. All the Hopes I have are, that contrary to their Opinion the Peace may be sign'd before 'tis possible for the Fleets to put to Sea, provided your Majesty can prevail with the King of *England* to have the Treaty of Commerce concluded with the States at *London*; because I am very well assur'd, Mons. *de Wit* proposes, by the help of some points in that Treaty, to lengthen out the Negotiation to the End of the Summer, since there are some matters in it that will require a long Discussion, and will unavoidably keep us backward a great while.

I have given Mons. *de Wit* fresh Assurances of what Mons. *de Lionne* told the *Sieur van Benningen* by your Majesty's Order, which was, that your Majesty would undertake nothing on account of the Queen's Pretensions, without first advising the States of it. I added likewise, by your Majesty's Directions, that you would not quarrel for quarreling sake, desiring nothing but
what

what you might demand in Reason and Justice; that when any Propositions are made that are barely tolerable, they shall find your Majesty more moderate in your Demands, than your Enemies have represented you.

He reply'd, that he highly approv'd your Majesty's Sentiments in that particular, and that he had lately discours'd *Friget* and *Don Estevan de Gamarra* about it as of his own Accord, giving 'em to understand, that it was their Duty to endeavour to induce their Masters to divert the Storm that seem'd ready to fall upon *Flanders*, and that it would be much better Husbandry to part with a little rather than lose all; whereupon they both told him, that the Elector of *Cologne* had propos'd to the Emperor, by Prince *William of Furstemberg*, to give up the *Franche County* in lieu of the Queen's Rights. *Mons. de Wit* reply'd, that the Dispute was not about her Majesty's Dower, but an Inheritance to which she had a just Claim in *Flanders* and *Burgundy*, and that he was of Opinion, that some regard ought to be had to the Overture made by the Elector of *Cologne*: And before he left 'em, he prevail'd with 'em to send immediately to their Masters, to perswade 'em to some Accommodation. After this, *Mons. de Wit* desir'd me to acquaint your Majesty, that if his Masters Interposition or his own might be of any use in a Negotiation of this Nature, they were ready to take upon 'em the Office of Mediators, and would endeavour to obtain all the Satisfaction your Majesty can expect from Persons entirely in your Interests.

I have waited here for the Nomination of the States Plenipotentiaries, but the Provinces are not as yet agreed upon that point; two of 'em indeed, *viz.* *O-verissel* and *Utrecht*, have consented to send no Deputies to *Breda*, but *Guelldres* insists upon having one of their Body there, and *Holland* consents that *Groningen*, being a Maritime Province, should send one likewise; so that I believe they will come to Day to a Resolution

of having four Plenipotentiaries on the Part of the States.

I set out to morrow without any farther delay for *Breda*, where I suppose *Mons. Courtin* is already arriv'd. According to our last Letters from *England*, I shall be there before the *English* Ambassadors; so that *Mons. Courtin* and I shall have time to examine your Majesty's Instructions, and prepare our selves for an exact Conformity to your Orders. We have agreed, that as soon as the States Fleet is got into *Calice* Road, your Majesty's is to be advertis'd of it, either by a Gally or an Express by Land, to the end it may enter the Channel without running any Risque, which I take to be a securer Method, than the five Days your Majesty demanded for the Sailing of your Fleet after that of the States; and that Article in the Project, which obliges your Majesty's Fleet to be ready to put into the Channel the Moment it shall be advis'd the *Dutch* Fleet is in the Mouth of the *Thames* or *Calice* Road is to be understood, that it shall be ready to enter the Channel upon the first Notice of the States Fleet being on the Station agreed upon; because the *English* Fleet may happen to Sail at the same time with the *Dutch*, and in case the *English* should chance to get the better in an Engagement, your Majesty's Ships may probably fall in with the *English* at the five Days end, without knowing what had pass'd between them and the *Dutch*, which would expose your Majesty's Fleet to imminent Danger; whereas, by the Provision made in the fore-mention'd Agreement, it will be able to enter the Channel without any manner of hazard, and if the Wind happens to blow West or Nore-West, the States Fleet will keep a head of it as far as *Poindrenx*.

I have this moment receiv'd Advcie from the *Sieur du Mas*, that your Majesty's Ships and those of the States have pass'd the *Pampers*, by the assistance of a Nore-West Wind, that help'd 'em over the Flats. I am, &c.

Since

Since the closing of this Pacquet, they have written to the *Sieur Pachan*, and directed him to acquaint *Mons. de Lionne*, that the States have this Instant resolv'd to send three Plenipotentiaries to *Breda*, that is to say *Mons. Beverning* for *Holland*, *Mons. Hubert* for *Zealand*, and *Mons. Jongstal* for *Frize*.

From the States-General to my Lord Hollis and Mr. Coventry: May 5, 1667.

Messieurs,

THE King of Great Britain had no sooner acquainted us with his Choice of *Breda*, as a Place the most convenient for the ensuing Treaty, and that he had appointed your Excellencies for his Plenipotentiaries, and that you were to set out with all convenient speed, but that we apply'd our selves with as much Expedition as the Constitution of our State will admit of, to the Nomination of Deputies on our Parts, and to take care of our Interests at the Place before-mention'd; we have at length appointed the *Sieur Jérôme de Beverning*, the *Sieur Peter de Hubert*, Lord of *Rengerskercken*, *Everfwaert*, *Burch* and *Haemsted*, &c. Pensionary of *Zealand*, and the *Sieur P. Mard de Jongstal*, first Counsellor, President in the Court of Justice of *Frizeland*, Deputies from the Provinces of *Holland*, *Zealand* and *Frize*, our Plenipotentiaries; who, among other things, are instructed by us to assure your Excellencies, that your Excellencies Persons are no less acceptable to us than the Business on which you are sent; and to assure you, that if the King your Master has commanded you to manifest in your Conduct the thorough Inclinations his Majesty has for the Peace, you will find our Dispositions here as strong towards it as those you bring with you. Of this we make no doubt but you were well assur'd before you embark'd, however our Plenipotentiaries will continue to give

you fresh Instances of it during the Course of the ensuing Negotiation. We believe we may say as much for our Allies, so that we hope in a short time to reap the Fruits of these our honest Desires, which are so much for the Benefit of all Christendom; and that all Parties concern'd being reunited in their Affections, we may evidence to the World the great Esteem we have for your Excellencies in particular, and how much we are, &c.

*Articles of Agreement concluded between
Monsieur d'Estrades, Ambassador Extraordinary of France, and the Deputies of the States-General of the United-Provinces.*

I. **T**HAT each Party shall do their utmost to have a Fleet at Sea this Summer, as strong, or stronger, than that of the foregoing Year,

II. That, to prevent the Enemy, the States-General shall endeavour as much as possible to have their Fleet ready to Sail by the 25th Instant, or sooner, if it may be done.

III. That the *French* Fleet likewise shall be ready to enter the Channel, the Moment it is inform'd that of the *States* is at Sea, and posted either at the Mouth of the *Thames*, or in *Calice* Road.

IV. That if the *States* Fleet should be out at Sea before that of the Enemy, and the Wind blow West, it shall then post it self in *Calice* Road, or between that and the *Thames*, and the King's Fleet, by favour of the same Wind, shall advance to join that of the *States*.

V. But in case the Wind should be at East, the Moment the *States* Fleet shall receive Advice that his Majesty's is put out of *Brest* Harbour, in that case the
Dutch

Dutch Fleet shall move farther into the Channel, and proceed to meet his Majesty's as far as the Height of *Poinrence* or thereabouts, to which Place his Majesty's shall likewise advance, 'till both Fleets being join'd, they may by God's Blessing find, and fight the Enemy.

VI. Both Fleets being thus join'd, they shall be commanded in concert by the two Admirals, who shall be respectively provided with sufficient Powers for that purpose; and in particular, such care shall be taken for the safety and return of the *French* Fleet into his Majesty's Harbours, as the Circumstances of Time and Occurrences will best admit of.

VII. But in case the *English* Fleet should be out at Sea before that of the States, tho' it may be very difficult to prevent an Engagement before the Confederate Fleets are join'd, yet it must be declin'd as much as is consistent with Honour and Reputation, and in this case each Party shall take care to advise the other both by Sea and Land, of all that passes from time to time, and of what Methods are most proper to be taken to facilitate the Junction.

VIII. If in either case his Majesty's Fleet, or that of the States, meet with a favourable Opportunity of attacking the *English* Fleet, or any part of it, or distressing the common Enemy in any manner whatsoever, the Occasion shall be readily embrac'd, and most vigorously pursu'd.

Done at the *Hague*, May 5, 1667.

From the King to the Count D'Estrades :
May 6, 1667.

I Have receiv'd yours of the 28th of the last Month, and am sorry to find *Hubert* nam'd by the Province of *Zealand* for their Plenipotentiary at *Breda*, because you tell me he is *Monf. de Wis's* profess'd Enemy; you and the *Sieur Courtin* are diligently to observe his Conduct,

duct, and to remedy it if you find it mischievous; for instance, if you find him endeavouring to delay the Conclusion of the Peace by study'd Difficulties; you may likewise find it convenient to play him against *de Wit* himself, in case you perceive him, out of idle Apprehensions from the Preparations I am making for a War by Land, willing to continue the present War by Sea, as I have too much reason to suspect he is, from what he told you relating to the Regulation of Commerce, which he would have settled at *Breda*, instead of referring it to a particular Treaty at *London*, as I had engag'd it should, in *Ruvigny's* Letter of the 24th of *November*, seen and approv'd formerly by *Mons. de Wit* himself.

All that you are to do upon the Reasons alledg'd by *Mons. de Wit*, provided the *English* agree to it, and not otherwise, is to discourse of that Regulation at *Breda*, after the Peace is sign'd, and whilst you are waiting for the Exchange of the Ratifications; but if the *English* make any Difficulties of coming into it, I won't recede from any thing contain'd in *Ruvigny's* Letter.

I have lately been inform'd by a Confident of the *Spanish* Ministers, who is indeed more my Creature than theirs, of the true Meaning of the pretended Letter of Credence, with which, as I had been told, the King of *England* had entrusted *l'Isola*; it was not directed to the *Sieur de Wit*, but to *l'Isola* himself, with an Intent that the other might give Credit to what he should propose. The same Confident has assur'd me they never met, so that *Mons. de Wit* told you no more than was true.

The *Sieur van Beuningen* is very earnest here for a Guaranty of the Peace, even before it's sign'd, between *France*, *Denmark*, and the States, upon the same Pretences that have been urg'd to you there; but we have endeavour'd to make him sensible how needless such a Project must be, since by Vertue of my Treaty with the States, which being always kept on Foot, and that

that between me and the King of *Denmark*, we are all of us reciprocally oblig'd. to assist and defend each other, whenever we shall be attack'd; this renders any other Guarantee superfluous, which can be of no Efficacy but between the King of *Denmark* and the States, and they may enter into such new Alliances as they shall judge convenient. *Van Beuningen* being not absolutely convinc'd by these Reasons, tho' of themselves most convincing, but continuing to insist upon a Guarantee before the Peace, we have given him to understand, that the main Design of this Proposition may be to lead me into such unseasonable Measures, as may oblige the King of *England* to unite himself more firmly to the House of *Austria*.

I hope to be able in a short Time to send you an important Dispatch, relating to the Queen's Demands; I mean, a Piece that is not yet quite printed, but will be in a few Days; and I know it absolutely Necessary, that *Mons. de Wit* should see the bottom of my Pretensions, which I am certain he will find to be very evident and incontestable. This I can tell you before hand, that they will always find me ready to come to an Accommodation, and that upon very moderate Terms; from whence they ought to conclude, that the good Offices and pressing Instances of my Friends, to persuade the *Spaniards* to do me Justice, will be very acceptable to me, and I shall think my self oblig'd to 'em for it, as desiring nothing but a reasonable Satisfaction, and a Preservation of the Peace, which I am not for breaking, unless *Spain* forces me to it.

The Chancellor of *England* has sent word to my Lord *St. Albans*, that the *English* Ambassadors are order'd to keep a close Correspondence with mine; I told him, I had given the same Instructions to you, as being in a manner already agreed upon the Points in dispute between us. This good Understanding may contribute much to the speedy Conclusion of the Peace, without being in the least prejudicial to the Interest of my Allies.

I have always forgot to inform you, and indeed to insert it in your Instructions, that my Intentions are to yield *Antegoa* to the *English*, to whom it belong'd before the War; so that you may without any Difficulty promise 'em, that all things in *St. Christophers* and *Antegoa* shall be restor'd to the Condition they were in before the Rupture.

As to the rest, I approve of the Conduct you propos'd in your last, as a means to come to a speedy Conclusion of the Treaty, and I must likewise commend your Method as to the Forms in the Negotiation; that is, that all Parties concern'd shall meet in the great Hall at *Breda*, or treat by the Mediators, or face to face in their respective Visits. This last Expedient may be thought something more dangerous, but no matter; do all we can, *Monsieur de Wit*, if he has a mind, will find out Opportunities of conveying secretly what he thinks fit to the *English* Ambassadors, as they will do to him.

I have not sent you your Powers by the Post, because I had not a mind to swell the Packet too much, so that you will receive 'em from *Monf. Courtin*; in the mean time I am glad to hear your Instructions are come safe to hand.

Memorial of the King to the Count D'Estrades and Monsieur Courtin, his Majesty's Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries to the Assembly at Breda. May 9, 1667.

HIS Majesty sends this Express to the said Ambassadors, upon a Resolution he has made of entering the *Low-Countries* in Person towards the latter end of this Month, and endeavouring, at the Head of his

his Army, to possess himself of what belongs to him in Right of his Queen, or to obtain such Equivalents as may oblige the *Spaniards* to deliver to his Majesty what they usurp from him.

Immediately upon the Arrival of this Express at *Breda*, the Count *d'Estrades* must take a turn to the *Hague*, and for a few Days leave the Conduct of Affairs at *Breda* to the Care of Monsr. *Courtin*.

The Count *d'Estrades* having imparted the Subject of this Express to Monsr. *de Wis*, and concerted with him such Measures as shall be thought properest for the King's Service in this Conjunction, shall demand Audience of the States-General, to whom he shall deliver his Majesty's Letter, some Copies of the Piece relating to the Queen's Demands, and a Copy of the Letter written by his Majesty to the Queen of *Spain*; after which he shall make 'em a Discourse conformable to his Majesty's Sentiments, and the Intentions he will observe in that Letter to the Queen of *Spain*.

And forasmuch as the Queen's Rights became claimable before the signing of the Treaty between the King and the States in the Year 1662, because at that time, and indeed from the Decease of the late Queen of *Spain*, the Queen's Mother, the late King of *Spain* became by the Right of Devolution no better than a usufructuary Possessor of several Dominions in the *Low-Countries*, in which the Queen, who was by the first Venter, had the real Property; the States are undoubtedly oblig'd, by Vertue of the said Treaty in 1662, to be Guarantees for his Majesty's Rights, and he might and ought to have demanded it instantly in the Letter he has now writ to 'em, was it not that he consider'd such a Procedure wou'd sour the Minds of the People, who are made to believe that his Majesty's Intention is to engage 'em in a new War, upon a Subject directly opposite to their real Interests: His Majesty having moreover consider'd, that the effect of such a Demand

' mand might be, that the States-General, to excuse
 ' themselves from such a Guaranty, would be apt to
 ' affirm in their Answer, that the Queen's Pretensions
 ' don't appear to them to be so clear as they ought,
 ' and so well founded, which would give the House
 ' of *Austria* an indirect Advantage against his Majesty;
 ' for they would not fail to publish and declare to
 ' the World, that even his own Friends and Allies
 ' think his Pretensions are not so clear, and well found-
 ' ed, as they ought to be.

' Wherefore his Majesty thinks it improper at pre-
 ' sent to insist upon the foremention'd Guaranty, re-
 ' serving a Power to himself of demanding it at such
 ' a place and time, as the course of his Affairs shall
 ' require.

' The Effects his Majesty expects to draw from
 ' this at present, is, that the States shall not engage
 ' with, nor assist the *Spaniards* against him, which will
 ' be a monstrous Injustice in them, who stand for-
 ' mally engag'd by a solemn Treaty to protect the
 ' King in his Rights, to take up Arms to destroy 'em,
 ' after the King by Vertue of the same Treaty has
 ' arm'd himself in their Defence against a King his
 ' near Relation and Allie, and a Prince of the Empire,
 ' who was likewise his Confederate.

' Furthermore, the Count d'*Esstrades* is to give the
 ' *Sieur de Wit* fresh Assurances, that his Majesty will
 ' upon all Occasions appear sincerely inclin'd to an Ac-
 ' commodation with *Spain*, and that he will be ready
 ' to accept of Conditions very moderate, considering
 ' the Importance of his Pretensions, of which upon a
 ' perusal of the foremention'd Paper he will have per-
 ' fect Knowledge; to this he may add, that all the
 ' good Offices and Instances of his Friends, to prevail
 ' upon the *Spaniards* to do him Reason, will be very
 ' acceptable to his Majesty, who desires no other than a
 ' reasonable Satisfaction, and a continuation of the
 ' Peace, which shall never be broken on his Part, pro-
 ' vided the *Spaniards* don't begin first. And this cer-
 ' tainly

'twinly is the readiest way to come to a good Agreement, since the *Pyrenean* Treaty being still in force, the surest method to preserve the Peace of Christendom, is to agree upon an Equivalent on the part of *Spain* in lieu of the Queen's Pretensions; and here the Count *d'Estades* will take an Opportunity of declaring to *Mons. de Wit*, and the States-General themselves, if he thinks it necessary, that his Majesty will be contented with an Equivalent in such Parts and such Places, as shall have no regard to the *United Provinces*, or give 'em the least Umbrage.

'His Majesty thinks it further convenient for the Count *d'Estades* to offer to the States, in his Majesty's Name, a Regulation in due Form, and the most Authentick that can be desir'd, for their Security of all the Pretensions the Queen and *Dauphin* may have on any Places in *Brabant*, which were given up to them by the Crown of *Spain* at the Treaty of *Munster*.

'But to come to other Affairs; since the Regency of *Sweden* have not thought fit to enter into a closer Alliance with his Majesty, and on the other side it's very uncertain what Measures his Majesty's present Designs will induce the States to take, the Count *d'Estades*, 'till he sees how things are likely to go, and receives new Instructions on that Subject, must for the future forbear to favour the Count *de Dohna's* Negotiation, 'till the Apprehensions the States are under from our Preparations shall render 'em more cautious of involving themselves in Foreign Affairs. The Meaning of all this is, that if the Count *d'Estades* can, without appearing in the Matter, raise any new Obstacles to the Count *de Dohna's* Negotiations, 'tis expected he should do it.

'The Earl of *St. Albans* came yesterday to assure the King, in his Master's Name, that the Isle of *Polemon* should be no Obstruction to the Peace, desiring however to that we would do all we could to obtain a Restitution, or an Equivalent; for which reason

son our Ambassadors are so to behave themselves in that respect, that the *English* may think themselves oblig'd to assure their Master, that his Majesty has acted sincerely in that respect. However this is to be so manag'd as nothing may retard the Peace, which must be the thing principally aim'd at. The grand Chancellor of *Sweden* having told Mons. *Pomponne*, that the King of *England* had promis'd the Sieurs *Flemming* and *Coyet* not to sign the Peace, 'till he had oblig'd the *Dutch* to give the *Swedes* Satisfaction in their Demands, the Sieur de *Ruvigny* writ thereupon to the Chancellor to be the better inform'd of the Matter, and receiv'd for answer, that the King of *England* would not retard the Peace one moment upon that Consideration; having promis'd no more than to employ his good Offices after the Signing it.

The Earl of *St. Albans* has drop'd a Word, which gives us reason to think the *English* Ambassadors will not be averse to enter even upon the Treaty of Commerce at *Breda*; therefore you are to take care that nothing of that Nature be commenc'd there, at least 'till after the Peace is sign'd; and during the Exchange of the Ratifications.

What his Majesty writ in his last to the Count *d'Esstrades*, relating to the Isle of *Antegoa*, is confirm'd in this present Memorial; it being his Majesty's Intension to have it restor'd to the King of *England*, and that it be made an Article of the Treaty, and that the same thing be understood of that part of *St. Christophers* that belong'd to the *English* before the War. Dated at *St. Germain en Laye*, May 9; 1667.

Sign'd, LEWIS.

Underneath, de Lionne.

Copy of his Majesty's Letter to the Queen of Spain, dated at St. Germain en Laye: May 9, 1667.

MOST High, most Excellent, and most Potent Princess, our very dear and belov'd Sister; the sincere Desire we have always had to procure, and preserve the publick Tranquility, of which the Treaties of *Westphalia* and the *Pyrenees* are sufficient Demonstrations to the whole World, oblig'd us yet farther, towards the close of the Year 1665, in a very earnest Instance, which however met not with a due Reception at *Madrid*, so to provide, that nothing for the future should be able to destroy that good Understanding and Amity, that had been so happily establish'd between the two Crowns, and even cemented by our august Marriage. 'Twas by these Motives the late Queen; our ever honour'd Lady and Mother, did at our Request charge the *Marquis de Fuentes* to write in her behalf to yo^r Majesty, that being fully inform'd of the Queen our dearest Consort's Pretensions to several Dominions in the *Low-Countries*, and having found the same solid, just, and incontestable, she earnestly conjur'd your Majesty, by the tender Affection she had for you, to suffer your self to be inform'd of the Equity of the said Pretensions, and take a particular Cognisance thereof; to the end that being equally sensible of the Justice of them, your Goodness might in the end incline you to give us Satisfaction by some reasonable Accommodation, that might root out all grounds of a Misunderstanding between our two Monarchies. She was so fully acquainted with our Sentiments, as to be able to answer for us, that we would be very reasonable in our Demands; and finding her self near her End, next to her own Salvation, she desir'd nothing in this World more earnestly than the Satisfaction of having been a Means of establishing between our two

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Houses that Unanimity and Affection, which the foresaw would be weaken'd by these Disputes. These Particulars cannot have escap'd your Majesty's Memory, nor can the Ministers of *Spain* forget the Answer they oblig'd your Majesty to return, so contrary to her late Majesty's Affection and Piety, and so remote without doubt to your own Inclinations for the publick Tranquility. Your Majesty's Answer was, That you would in no manner, nor upon any Consideration whatever, enter upon a Discussion of that Affair, nor treat or agree upon any thing relating to those Claims, which you said you knew had no Foundation; and immediately thereupon your Majesty sent your Orders to the Government in *Flanders*, to require the Oath of Fidelity from the States of the Country, and all the People in general, which 'till then had been omitted ever since the decease of the late King our Father-in-Law. This your Majesty's absolute Denial of doing us Justice, and your Resolution of securing to your Majesty, by an Oath of Fidelity, a People that are effectually our Subjects in Claim of the Queen our Consort, having reduc'd us unwillingly to the indispensable Necessity of either being wanting to our own Honour, to our self, to the Queen, and our Son the Dauphin, or of endeavouring to right our self by the force of Arms, we have chosen that Part to which common Honour and Justice have directed us, and by this Courier which we have dispatch'd Express to the Archbishop of *Cambrun*, our Ambassador at *Madrid*, we have appointed him the said Ambassador to acquaint your Majesty with the Resolution we have taken of marching in Person towards the end of this Month at the Head of our Army, to endeavour to put our self in Possession of what belongs to us in the *Low-Countries* in Right of our Wife, or of an Equivalent thereto, and at the same time to present to your Majesty a Writing we have had prepar'd, declaring the Validity of our Demands, and effectually answering the frivolous Objections contain'd in some Libels

bels publish'd by the Governor of *Flanders*. In
 the mean time, we hope much from your Ma-
 jesty's Equity, and that as soon as you shall have read
 and examin'd the said Writing, you will highly con-
 demn those that advis'd your Majesty to refuse, and
 oppose a Demand so evident and reasonable, and that
 your Majesty will be easily perswaded to accept of
 those Means we have offer'd to you, and do now of-
 fer, in order to put an end to the present Dispute by
 an amicable Agreement. In this Case your Majesty
 may be assured of two Things; the first is, That we
 will insist upon nothing but what is just and reason-
 able, when compar'd to the Quality and Importance of
 our Claims; and secondly, That should our Arms
 have the Success we may reasonably promise our self
 from the Justice of our Cause, our Intention is not
 to seize on more than what of Right belongs to us,
 or may be thought an Equivalent to it, wheresoever
 we can obtain it; and that as to the rest of the Do-
 minions of our most dearly beloved Brother the King
 of *Spain*, having first receiv'd or secur'd what is
 justly due to us, we shall be always ready to pro-
 tect and secure 'em to himself, and his Posterity,
 which we pray may be numberless, and without end;
 and we shall moreover most religiously observe the
 Peace, as we assur'd the Marquis *de Fuentes* at his
 Audience of Leave, having no Design on our Part of
 infringing it by our marching into the *Low-Countries*
 at the Head of our Army, which is intended only to
 put us in Possession of what belongs to us of Right.
 We pray God, most High and Mighty, &c.

From the most Christian King to the States-General: May 9, 1667.

MOST dear high Friends, Allies and Confederates. By a Messenger which we have sent Express to the Count *d'Estrades*, our Ambassador Extraordinary at the *Hague*, we have commanded him to acquaint you in our Name, as our very good Friends and Allies, with our Resolution of having a Recourse to Arms, which our Honour and Interest, after a long and open denial of Justice, have at length oblig'd us to in Vindication of the Rights of our dearly beloved Consort the Queen, and our most dear Son the Dauphin. To this end we have appointed our said Ambassador to communicate to you a Writing we have order'd to be compiled, and publish'd, that all Christendom may see the Reasonableness of our Pretensions, together with the Copy of a Letter we have this Day written to our most dear Sister the Queen of *Spain*. You will observe in the first Piece the Equity of our Conduct, and that without an Intention of breaking the Peace, or claiming what belongs to another, our desire is only to secure our selves from Oppression, either by the force of Arms, or by a reasonable Accommodation, to which they shall always find us well dispos'd. Referring our self for further Particulars to our said Ambassador, We pray God, &c. Dated at *St. Germain's*, May 9, 1667.

Your good Friend, Allie and Confederate,

Signed, LOUIS.

And Lower, De Lionne.

The Superscription was,

*To our most dear high Friends, Allies and Confederates,
the Lords the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Low-Countries.*

From

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
Breda, May 12, 1667.

WE have receiv'd the Honour of your Majesty's of the sixth Instant, and in punctual Obedience to your Majesty's Commands, we will have an Eye upon the *Sieur Hubert*; and in case it should appear, that *Monf. de Wit* endeavours to retard the Peace, we will make use of *Hubert* to break his Measures.

We will preserve a good Correspondence with the *English* Ambassadors, and in such a manner, if possible, as not to give an Umbrage to the *Dutch*, who are too apt to be Jealous on these Occasions. The said Ambassadors are not yet arriv'd at *Flushing*, and the Wind being contrary, 'tis likely they will not be at *Breda* so soon as they propos'd.

We are surpriz'd to find the Mediators are to land at the *Gerée*, where the Count *de Dohna* is to go and meet them. It being the Duty of Mediators to be first upon the Place, we think this going the farthest way about, and it looks as if they had not a Mind to bring an Affair of this Consequence to a speedy Issue. We will endeavour to arm our selves against 'em, if we find 'em prevaricating.

The King of *Denmark*'s Plenipotentiaries came hither after us. They sent to see us, and to demand Audience. They paid us the first Visit, each of us at our Lodgings. We receiv'd 'em at the Court Door, which is below the Steps, and gave 'em the Hand; we conducted 'em to the same Place, were we had at first receiv'd 'em; and the next Day we went both together to return their Visit at their Lodgings.

Messieurs Beverning and *Hubert* have been here these two Days, but have not yet assumed their Character, waiting for the Deputy of *Frise*, who is join'd with them in Commission,

The States might have order'd us to have been receiv'd with more Honour, by commanding the Infantry to salute us with the Pike and Colours, as *F. d'Estades* have seen 'em receive the late Prince of *Orange*. We talk'd with *Monf. de Hauteville* about it, who told us he should have been very glad to have done the same by us, and to have paid us all the Honours due to our Characters, and have gratify'd his own Inclinations, being by Birth one of your Majesty's Subjects; but he said he had his Instructions in Writing, and that two of the States Deputies had given him Orders about it. As for the Salute of the Horse with the Sword in hand, 'tis what was never done in the Country, not so much as to the Princes of *Orange*; and we have been told, that when the late *Monsieur de Longueville* lodg'd at *Rotterdam* in his return from *Munster* into *France*, the Garrison was by the Prince of *Orange's* Command drawn out to receive him, but they saluted him neither with the Pike nor Colours. The same thing happen'd to *Messieurs d'Avaux* and *Servient*, when they were in *Holland*. We contented our selves with observing calmly, that more Civility might have been us'd, without carrying the thing too far, since it was a Reception agreed upon for all the Ambassadors.

As soon as your Majesty shall have sent us the Writing which is to prove the Queen's Rights, we'll endeavour to support 'em as much as we can; and we wish *Monf. de Wit* may find 'em so clear and incontestable, as to be able to ease the People of those Apprehensions, which your Majesty's Entrance into *Flanders* at the Head of so powerful an Army has given them.

We are glad to find your Majesty has been rightly inform'd of *Monf. de Wit's* Conduct, in relation to the King of *England's* Letter, and the Interview he was said to have had with *l'Isola*, and that your Majesty is perswaded of his Sincerity therein. He still continues to act in the same manner; for the Morning

I left the *Hague*, he communicated to me the Conversation he had had with Don *Estevan de Gamarra*, who came to visit him, and show'd him a Letter he had receiv'd from *Castel Roderigo*, in which he orders him to press the States to a just Sense of your Majesty's Enterprize upon *Flanders* and *Brabant*, great part of which belongs to them; that this was the only time to join with the House of *Austria*, in defence of the Country; that they ought to consider, that as soon as your Majesty shall have driven the *Spaniards* out of *Flanders*, you would not fail to invade them, since your Pretensions in *Brabant* equally regard both the one and the other; that being upon the Point of concluding a Peace with *England*, he was to prevail with the *Sieur de Wit*, and the Towns of *Holland*, that the 2000 Horse and 6000 Foot should not be disbanded, but sent to join their Army, and that there was a Fund at *Antwerp* appointed for their Payment. To this *Mons. de Wit* reply'd, that it would be Prudence in the Emperor and King of *Spain* to prevent the Storm that threatneth them, by giving a due Satisfaction to your Majesty; and that he might not be mistaken any longer, he told him, both he and his Masters were in your Majesty's Interests, and were consequently under no Apprehensions from your Forces, which they were thoroughly convinc'd would undertake nothing to their Prejudice; that the States were resolv'd to keep their new Levies on Foot 'till the end of *August*, and perhaps all the Year. If *Mons. de Wit* continues of this Mind, *Castel Roderigo* will find himself oblig'd to take other Measures.

In the mean time, we are advis'd that *l'Isela* is to come to *Hoogstrate*, three Leagues from hence, as soon as the *English* Ambassadors shall be arriv'd. Since the *Spaniards* omitted nothing on their Side, that may be for their Advantage, we will in all things relating to your Majesty's Service take care not to be surpris'd, and we may assure your Majesty that we will endeavour vigorously to countermine 'em.

Since your Majesty leaves us at our Liberty to manage the Negotiation as we please, we will carefully consult what manner will be the most Easie and Expeditious; and we have now time to consider about it, before the Arrival of the *English* Ambassadors.

We humbly desire your Majesty to explain your self as to the Islands of *Monserat* and *Nevis*, which they say here have been taken from the *English*, as well as *Antegoa* and part of *St. Christophers*; be pleas'd, Sir, to let us know your Pleasure, whether it be to keep, or restore 'em.

There are likewise the Islands of *Tobago* and *St. Eustachium*, that have been taken by the *English*, and the *Dutch East-India* Company pretend they ought to be restor'd to them. The States Deputies won't fail of pressing us in this point; for which reason we humbly desire to receive your Majesty's Pleasure therein, that we may know how to answer them.

We have just now receiv'd advice from the *Hague*, that the Count *de Dohna* had been order'd by the Mediators to propose a Suspension of Arms to the States, which he has done accordingly; and was answer'd, that they ought first to see what likelihoopd there was of a Peace before they took such a Step, and that they ought likewise to consult their Allies, who had been hitherto against it as well as themselves.

This delay in the Mediators, and the Conference they are to have at the *Gorée*, with the Count *de Dohna*, makes us imagine their Design is to spin out the Negotiation as long as they can, 'till they see what Success their own Minister at the *Hague* is like to have in behalf of the Crown of *Sweden*.

All the States Plenipotentiaries are now arriv'd, and just as we were going to conclude this they all three came to communicate to us a Dispatch they had receiv'd from their Masters, importing that *Monf. Brands*, the Elector of *Brandenburg's* Resident at *London*, had desir'd his Majesty of *Great Britain* would be pleas'd to receive his Minister as a Mediator at *Breda*, which

was

was granted; and the same thing having been demanded from the States, they reply'd, that the Mediators had been already acknowledg'd by all Parties, and that they did not know if the Crowns in Alliance with them would approve of another Mediation; whereupon we answer'd, we would inform your Majesty of it, and wait your Answer; but that since the like Offer from the Emperor having been already rejected, 'twas most likely this would be so too.

I have this Moment receiv'd a Letter from *Monf. de Wit*, in which he desir'd me to let him know your Majesty's Resolutions as to the Flag, and demands in very pressing Terms if I have not yet receiv'd your Majesty's Commands about the Means he proposed for an Accommodation with *Spain*, in case any Difference should arise between the two Crowns. He assures me he will do all he can to support your Majesty's reasonable Pretensions, and that he thinks your Majesty can no longer delay explaining your self to your Allies. We shall not take upon us to return him any Answer 'till we have been favour'd with your Majesty's Commands.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: May 12, 1667.

I Am much oblig'd to you, Sir, for the Letters of State you have obtain'd in behalf of my self, and my Son. This will give us an Opportunity of defending our selves in our Absence. You will see in ours to the King the Condition of Affairs here. *Monsieur Courtin* and I were the first at *Breda*. I find him a Person so honest and agreeable, that it's a pleasure to serve his Majesty in Conjunction with him; and I can tell you before-hand, that I hope the King will be very well satisfy'd with our Negotiation.

As for the *Swedish* Vessels which 'tis said the *Dutch* have seiz'd, and us'd very scurvily, they are to be consider'd under several Circumstances. Some of 'em having been taken in the *Thames*, which the *Swedes* themselves can't deny, have been confiscated by the Admiralties. Others upon Examination appearing not to be lawful Prize have been releas'd, and these the *Swedes* demand absolutely, without subjecting them to the Inquisition of the Admiralties; but the States insist that those Courts ought in course to take Cognizance of them; but if the Negotiation that is on Foot at present succeeds they may meet with a favourable treatment, but otherwise, if Matters are left in the Condition they are now in, there being no Regulation of Commerce settled between 'em, 'tis necessary they should submit to the Decisions of the Admiralty; which is, that those that appear lawful Prize will be condemn'd, and the rest releas'd. I am, &c.

*From the King to the Count D'Estades and
Monsieur Courtin : May 13, 1667.*

I Have little to add to the Dispatch I sent four Days ago Express by a Messenger, whom I order'd to go by the way of *Dunkirk*, and to proceed from thence by Sea.

I approve your signing the secret Articles relating to the Junction of the Fleets in the Terms which it hath been sent to me, and I am dispatching my Orders to the Duke of *Beaufort*, with a Copy of the said Articles, to the end he may act in Conformity with 'em.

I so little doubted of the *Sieur de Wit's* Intention to prolong the Negotiation 'till the Summer is over, that it's one of the chief Reasons for my Resolution of entering *Flanders*, without waiting for the result of the Assembly at *Breda*; but since *de Wit's* Design was to make me suspend that Resolution if possible, I am
of

of Opinion, that when the States perceive me in earnest, and shall find us entering upon Action in their very Neighbourhood, they will be willing to disengage themselves, and grow fonder of the Peace than before; my fear at present is, that the *English* will begin to play their Tricks, when they find I have other Business upon my Hands.

I never knew Count *William* had propos'd to the Emperor to yield to me the *Franche* County in lieu of the Queen's Pretensions; and if he has, it's done without my Knowledge, or Approbation.

When they shall have examin'd the Writing I have order'd to be publish'd, and consider'd the Quality and Justice of my Pretensions, they must readily confess, that something more will be requisite to an Accommodation, than the parting with a Country, which I can master in two Months time whenever I please. The Person who is sent hither by the Bishop of *Amster* about the Business of *Delmenhorst*, which is in Dispute betwixt him and the King of *Denmark*, has desired me not to oppose his being comprehended in the Peace, provided the King of *England* consents to have him nam'd; and since that Prince may prove of Service to me in the course my Affairs are at present like to take, you are not only not to oppose it if the *English* Ambassadors insist upon it, but I would have you to promote it under-hand as much as you can, without giving the *Dutch* any reason to complain.

From the King to the Count D'Estades:
May 13, 1667.

I Have written to Day to the *Sieur de la Roche*, that as soon as he shall have brought into the Port of *Amsterdam* the two Ships he is gone to fetch out of *Denmark*, my Intention is, that he endeavour to put all the Ships I have in the said Port in a Condition of

of sailing with the States Fleet; but having added, that as to the Post my Squadron is to take in the said Fleet, and the Rank the said *de la Roche* is to have in all Councils of War, he is to conform himself to the Instructions he shall receive from you, I desire you to settle these three Points with the States, or their Deputies for secret Affairs; and that you take care to have it agreed between you, as in justice it ought, that my Squadron should have the first Post in the Fleet next the Admiral, and that *de la Roche* be admitted into all the Councils of War on board the said Admiral, and take Place of all the Admirals and Vice-Admirals in the States Service. However, if after having stiffly insisted upon these Demands, you find no probability of obtaining your Point, desiring upon all Occasion to convince the States of my real Friendship and Protection, I give you leave to recede, and to regulate those Points in the best manner you can, taking care to have my Squadron as useful as possible, without running more hazards than are necessary. As for the Orders, my Pleasure is, that he receives 'em from none but the Admiral himself, nor will I have my Squadron divided upon any Pretence whatsoever; but having in another Letter commanded the said *de la Roche* to leave the States Fleet upon the Conclusion of the Peace, and bring my Squadron into *Brest*, you must take care to give him advice accordingly.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
Breda, May 19, 1667.

I Have been with Monsieur *de Wis* at the *Hague*, and have had a long Conference with him upon the Points contain'd in your Majesty's Memorial. He told me, he was mightily surpriz'd to understand your Majesty was upon the point of marching to the Frontier, and that at the same time that you was setting forth
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the Queen's Right to the States; that your Majesty had often assur'd Monsieur *van Benningen*, that you would undertake nothing without their Participation, and yet without so much as giving 'em time to examine the Validity of your Pretentions, you execute your Designs at the same time that you acquaint the States with them, which is contrary to the Opinion the States had that your Majesty would act in this particular with greater Confidence towards 'em, allowing 'em a reasonable time between the Advice and Execution; that he hop'd your Majesty would have explain'd your self either to the States, or to him, what Places or Countries you would be contented with, that a stop might be put to that Flame that is breaking out in all parts of Christendom; that he had offer'd before, and is still ready to use his Interest with the *Spaniards*, to perswade 'em to an Accommodation, and he was in hopes of succeeding, if he had time to manage the Towns, and obviate the Jealousies they are under of your Majesty's Entry into the *Low-Countries* during the Treaty of Peace, which convinces all the World, that your Majesty is agreed under-hand with the *English*; to which he added, they have long observ'd your Majesty's Affection to the State to be grown cooler, and that every thing has been practis'd in *France* that could contribute to the ruin of their Trade, by imposing heavy Customs upon all *Dutch* Manufactures, and by trying all ways to entice their Workmen into *France*, from whence however several of 'em have return'd without finding the Encouragement they expected.

That at present he observes the People inclin'd to Trade into any Part of the World rather than *France*, where the Imposts are rais'd to such a Height, that those Goods, which in the late King's time paid but 20 *per Cent.* are forc'd now to pay fourscore, tho' the *Sieur van Benningen* has often represented the Inconveniences that must necessarily attend such a Practice.

That

That he thought it would have been more for your Majesty's Service, for him to have endeavour'd to dispose the States to be Guarantees between your Majesty, the King of *Denmark*, and the *Dutch*, against the *English*, in case they insisted upon the honour of the Flag, or attempted any act of Hostility against any of the Allies at Sea; that your Majesty would have found your Count in such an Alliance upon a Rupture with *Spain*; for should the *English* enter into Engagements with the House of *Austria*, and be oblig'd to assist the *Spaniards* with a Fleet against the Designs of *France*, the *Dutch* in that case would be oblig'd to assist your Majesty with theirs, which would make the Alliance propos'd of great Service to your Majesty.

That your Majesty having rejected this Proposition, he found it impossible at present to bring such an Alliance about, which he thought so necessary for the publick Affairs in general, and to the Interest of your Majesty in particular; that for his own Part, finding himself grown useless, and not able to compose the Minds of the People, and remove the Jealousies they have conceiv'd at your Majesty's sudden Expedition into these Countries, he was resolv'd to go as the States Deputy to Sea, rather than have a hand in such Councils as will be taken in so unlucky and surprising a Conjunction. To this I reply'd, that I had not time to answer all the Complaints he had been pleas'd to make; that your Majesty, 'tis true, had always declar'd you would undertake nothing without their Participation; that accordingly, as soon as the Queen's Right had been plainly evinc'd, you sent the States Copies of the Exemplifications, and had given me Orders to acquaint 'em with your Descent into the *Low-Countries*, as soon as you had resolv'd to do so; that having explain'd my self about what the States possess in *Brabant*, and signify'd your Majesty's Resolution of observing faithfully the *Pyrenean* Treaty, as well as your Moderation in being ready to accept of an Equivalent of such Places, and in such Parts, as are most

most Remote from their Frontiers, I thought these great Instances of your Majesty's Inclination to live in strict Amity with the States, and sufficient to remove all their ill-grounded Jealousies.

That as to the Duties laid in *France* upon *Dutch* Manufactures, I told him, he ought not to draw a Consequence from thence, as if our Design was to ruin their Trade; for I could prove to him, that we had more reason to complain of the great Imposition laid upon *French* Goods throughout the *United-Provinces*, where we are forc'd to pay *Cent. per Cent.* which notwithstanding your Majesty suffer'd without any Complaints, because he knew it to be the Right of Sovereigns to augment or diminish the Customs in their own Dominions, as they shall judge it convenient to their Affairs.

That as to the Treaty propos'd, your Majesty's Answer was very reasonable; for a new Treaty would be of no use, since those already on Foot were sufficient to the Ends desir'd by a new one, which would likewise give the *English* some reason to complain, if they found us entering into new Engagements against 'em, at the same time that we were upon a Treaty of Peace with them.

That I did not doubt but the *Spaniards* would make use of all their Artifices, to extinguish in the People that Sense of Gratitude they ought to have for your Majesty, but I knew likewise that it was in his Power to render 'em ineffectual; that the moment he left his Charge here at Home, and went as the States Deputy to Sea, your Majesty would interpret it as a forsaking your Interests, and declaring for your Enemies; that he might assure himself, your Majesty would clearly perceive that all his Complaints, those of the States, and even of the Towns themselves, had no just Grounds, but the Jealousies of People repining at your Majesty's Puissance, supported by a Parcel of Chimerical Umbrages, which your Majesty had so often contradicted by so many effectual Assistances, by your Ruptures with the King of *England*, and the Bishop of *Munster*.

ster, by your good Offices with the *German* Princes, and Electors, in order to accommodate those Differences, which would otherwise have drawn a War upon 'em that might have ended in their Ruin.

I desir'd him to refl. & seriously upon these Things, and consider if it would not be more for his and the *States* Service to receive the Notification I was to present 'em, as an Instance of your Majesty's Friendship and Sincerity, and immediately to take such honest Measures as may give the *Spaniards* to understand, that they ought to give your Majesty Satisfaction upon your just and reasonable Pretensions; that otherwise they should be oblig'd to join with your Majesty, and force 'em to it; by this Means they would put an end to the War, and have the Credit of procuring an honourable Satisfaction to your Majesty's Demands.

The next Day I had my publick Audience, at which your Majesty's Letter to the *States* was read, together with the Copy of that to the Queen of *Spain*. I observ'd the whole Assembly very much astonish'd, and the President answer'd me in a few Words, that they were surpriz'd at your Majesty's Resolution of invading the *Low-Countries*, and that they wou'd consider of what I had been speaking to 'em in your Majesty's Name.

I stay'd the next Day at the *Hague* to visit my Friends; I found 'em all in a great Confusion, without daring to open their Mouths. I was not in the least surpriz'd at this, because 'tis no more than what is usual with 'em upon their first Impressions, and this shows us how soon their Confidence and good Opinion of us is to be shock'd.

I left the Affairs of *Sweden* in no Prospect of a speedy Accommodation, and *Mons. de Wit*, who is by no means hearty in it, told me he would let nothing pass about it without acquainting me with it. I left the *Hague* on the 18th, and went to *Rotterdam*, where I discours'd some of the chief of the Admiralty, who told me plainly how much it was their Interest to have

a Peace, that being concern'd in the *East-India-Company*, and the whole Fishery, they shou'd lose more than 100000 Crowns if it was not speedily concluded.

I answer'd, That since they were so free with me, I wou'd speak my Opinion as plainly to them; and told 'em, that the readiest way to forward the Peace, was to retard the Departure of the Fleet; that Admiral *de Ruyter's* Ship, and seven others of the First Rate, were in their Harbour; that they might delay 'em, having the Management of their Victualling, and other Provisions; that if upon these Pretences they cou'd detain 'em to the end of this Month, it wou'd be at least the 10th of *June*, before all the Squadrons cou'd assemble in the *Texel*; that in the mean time we might be able to forward the Negotiation, and so carry it with the *English*, as to prevent their flying off, which when they saw the States Fleet braving 'em upon their own Coasts, they might be otherwise apt to do.

This was only between our selves. They promis'd so to contrive it, that tho' the States were never so pressing, those Ships shou'd not be able to go out of Port before the End of the Month; so that it will take up some time before the States Fleet will be able to get round to *Calais*, and advise your Majesty of their Arrival, according as it has been agreed in the Project between us.

I humbly entreat your Majesty, not to let Monsieur *Van Beuningen* know any thing of what has pass'd between me and the Officers of the Admiralty, in this Affair, because it wou'd be much to their Prejudice; for Monsieur *de Wit* will not easily forget an ill Turn, and he is bent upon hastning the Departure of the Fleet. His principal Design is, undoubtedly, to entangle and retard your Majesty's Designs: This I have particularly observ'd in my late Journey thither; and I'm of

Opinion, he'll take another Conduct when he finds your Majesty enter upon Action.

Upon my Arrival at *Breda*, I receiv'd your Majesty's Orders relating to the Place Monsieur *de la Roche* is to have in the Councils of War. I have no other way of transacting this Affair with Monsieur *de Wit*, but by Letter. I intend to write to him about it to morrow, and will give your Majesty an Account of it by the first Opportunity.

From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
May 19, 1667.

THE *English* Ambassadors arriv'd at *Flushing*: the Men of War that brought 'em did not fire as they came into Harbour; the Officers that commanded 'em pretending, that the Vice-Admiral of *Zealand* ought to have given them the first Salute. In like manner, they were not saluted by the Cannon of the Town, where, they say, 'tis customary for the Ships first to salute the Fortresses. The same Day, they proceeded in the Yachts the States had provided for 'em, and were saluted at their Departure by all the Cannon of the Town, and all the Ships at Anchor in the Harbour; the next Day they stop'd a League short of this Place, because there were no Beds for their Servants in the Houses appointed for 'em, and they were forc'd to send for some from *Antwerp*, continuing in the mean time on board their Yachts. I understood the Day following, Mr. *Coventry* had been in Town *incognito*, and had lain here all Night. *J. Courtin* sent a Gentleman to my Lord *Hollis*, to tell him, That, as an Ambassador, I expected he shou'd acquaint me with his Arrival, but as a private Man, and his humble Servant, I cou'd not forbear letting him know how impatient I was to see

see him. He receiv'd my Complement with all imaginable Civility, declaring that his Desire was to live with me as with his Brother. The same Day he sent one of his own People with a Complement to me. *Homeard*, Great-Almoner to the Queen-Mother of *England*, and the Duke of *Norfolk's* Brother, coming the next day to dine with me, I carry'd him my self back in my own Coach to the Place where the Yachts lay, and went without any Ceremony to see my Lord *Hollis*. After Complements on both sides, and reciprocal Assurances of your Majesty's good Intentions, and those of the King of *Great-Britain*, we began to discourse upon the two Points that were most likely to retard the Conclusion of the Peace.

He declar'd, that he had Orders to insist upon *Pleron*, and that he had brought with him three Deputies from the *East-India* Company, who were to make it appear to us, That the *Dutch* were never in earnest when they deliver'd it up to the *English*, but upon a certainty that they wou'd never be able to keep it; that if the *Dutch* continu'd Masters of that Island, they wou'd likewise be so of all the Trade in the *East-Indies*; that We were no less concern'd in it than *England*, and that his *Britannick* Majesty hoped we would be ready to do him all the Good-Offices we could in his Majesty's Name.

I reply'd, that we had already receiv'd your Majesty's Orders in that Particular, and had already insinuated to the States Deputies, that if that Island was ruin'd, since the *English* in case of a War were unable to maintain it, it being at such a Distance from their other Establishments, we cou'd not see what Damage it would be to the States to abandon it; but the Deputies stop'd our Mouths by assuring us, that *Isola* had writ positively to Monsieur *Friquet*, that the King of *Great-Britain* consented to give *Pleron* up to the

Dutch. at the Treaty, and that *Friguet* had shown the Letter to Monsieur *de Wit* ; that it was by this time known throughout all the Provinces, and that if the *English* Ambassadors insisted upon it, they who perhaps were no great Friends to the Peace, wou'd make use of this Occasion to break it off ; that I was glad of this Opportunity of warning him of it, that knowing before-hand the Temper of the People, and how far the Emperor's Minister had been tampering with them, he might himself judge what was proper for us to do, in order to satisfy the King his Master.

He told me, *Isola* had gone too far ; however, he said, they ought not to break off for the sake of *Polemon*, and at the same time desired all the Assistance we could give him. I told him, he wou'd find us always ready to serve him ; but I desir'd him to consider at the same time, since they were not to break off upon that score, if it was not for the King of *England's* Interest to declare himself in time ; for if the Treaty was delay'd, the States Fleet would set Sail, and your Majesty was under an Engagement of joining yours with it the Beginning of the next Month ; and since he had already confess'd that of *England* was not ready, it might happen to appear to all *Europe* at the Conclusion of the Treaty, that the *Dutch* were Masters at Sea : that on the other side, this Inconvenience might be avoided ; for the Moment he and his Colleague consented to give up *Polemon*, we wou'd declare here the Peace was concluded ; we shou'd thereby prevent the Departure of the Fleets, and in short, sign the Peace before the Inequality of their Strength at Sea cou'd possibly be discover'd. I observ'd him touch'd with this Consideration, and he concluded with saying again, that we ought not to break upon the account of *Polemon*. I thought this a proper time to prepare him for the Regulation of Commerce, and told him

him, that a Proposition wou'd be made of having it treated in this Place; but if he wou'd keep close to the Contents of *Ruvigny's* Letter, and insist upon having it referr'd to Commissioners, who were to assemble after the Conclusion of the Peace, we wou'd joyn our Interest with theirs to get your Majesty disengaged of your Promise. He promised me to do it, and added that this was not a time of day to engage in such a Discussion; and he express'd himself in such a manner, that I thought there was no necessity of proposing to enter upon that Affair whilst the Ratifications were exchanging, for fear it might put some stop to that.

I likewise told him, the *Dutch* Plenipotentiaries knew nothing but that your Majesty's Intentions were to retain all *St. Christophers*, and that we design'd to insist upon it till the Affair of *Pole-ron* was regulated; and that I acquainted him with it before hand, that he might not be surpris'd at it: he much approv'd of our Design, and promised to keep it secret.

He came to see me the next day; and his Colleague came likewise and paid me a particular Visit, in which I discover'd two things; one is, that supposing the King of *England* should consent to the delivering up of *Pole-ron*, he can't dispose of the Estates some of his Subjects have in that Island, who ought to have some equivalent consideration to save 'em harmless, and that for that purpose they had brought with them three Deputies from the *East-India Company*, who were empower'd to treat in behalf of the Persons concern'd.

The other is, That the Treaty of 1662 being to be the Foundation of this we are now going upon, and a Difficulty being likely to arise upon the Explication of the Words *litum inceptum prosequi*, it was proper to consider how the Owners of the *Bonadventure*, and the *Bonne Esperance* might be indemnified.

As to the first Point I answer'd, that I foresaw if the *English* required an Indemnity for the Proprietors of Land in *Poleçon*, the *Dutch* would insist upon the like Indemnity for their Subjects that had been disposess'd in new *Belgia*, and that I thought the readiest way to come to an Agreement, was, to compensate one Pretension with the other. That as to the Second, That being well acquainted with the Sense of the Treaty in 1662, and having discours'd the Earl of *St. Albans* about it before I left *Paris*, both he and Mr. *de Ruigny* were of Opinion, that his *Britannick* Majesty having accepted of the Preliminary which was to leave every thing in the condition they were in at present, it was to be understood that all Pretensions were to be dropt on both sides, not only such as related to Ships taken during the War, but all other Demands of what nature soever they might be : this he positively deny'd, and assured me, that the Chancellour having sent for the Persons concern'd, advis'd 'em to come to some Agreement, that the Peace might not be retarded on their account ; and that a Person was sent on purpose accordingly to transact that Affair.

I foresee, Sir, that this Mistake is like to hinder our Negotiation, unless your Majesty allows Mr. *de Ruigny* to settle it with the Chancellour ; for we shall find it a difficult matter to perswade the States to part with any Money, and the *English* will be obstinate in their demands of it. The matter in short is this ; I understood, and Mr. *de Ruigny* has often told me so, that all Pretensions should be forgotten on both sides, and by what I can gather from Mr. *Coventry's* Discourse he is quite of another Opinion.

We have receiv'd the Honour of your Majestys of the 13th Instant, and we will keep the Courier here till we have had a Conference with the *English* Ambassadors, who are to come hither to-morrow,

morrow, and we shall not be able to visit them till the day following : probably the *Swedish* Ministers may be come by that time, at least we may have some news of them. We are, &c.

From Monsf. de Lionne to the Count d'Estrades,
May 20, 1667.

THE King left *St. Germain* the 16th, and set out for *Amiens*, whence, as I think, I wrote to you eight days ago ; he'll depart the 26th, and enter the *Low-Countries* the 28th, with so good an Army that it gives grounds to hope for success. The *Mareschal de Aumont* is to enter then on *Boulogne-Side* also with a good Body of Troops ; and the *Marquis de Crèqui* commands another of 8000 Men, who are to keep near *Sirk*, to advance towards the *Rhine*, and hinder the Passage the *Spaniards* may obtain of the Emperor for their Assistance. His Majesty has permitted Monsieur *le Tellier*, Monsieur *Colbert*, and I, to come hither for four or five days, to give Orders about some Affairs that concern his Service and our Equipages ; to morrow we depart to wait upon him at the Place he has appointed us.

The Queen will return from *Amiens* to *Compeigne*, where she'll make some abode. The King has given her Power to command in his Absence through all his Kingdom, and to that end Monsieur the Chancellour, the *Mareschal d'Estrees*, and two of the Secretaries of State are to attend upon her, that her Majesty may take Counsel in in all Occurrences where she shall think she has occasion of it.

I am so overwhelm'd with Affairs of all sorts, that you will pardon me for not entertaining you as long as I would.

The Marquis *de Castel Rodrigo* has sent a Letter, or rather an insolent Libel, to the King. I have not time to transmit you a Copy of it; but believing the said Marquis will publish it to the World, and Copies of it may be soon had at *Breda*; I send you that of a Letter I have written to the Marquis *de la Fuentes*, who is still detain'd here by some Indisposition, true or feign'd, tho' he had his *Conge* of their Majesties a Month since. My Letter will furnish you with a Counterpoison for the Venom the said *Castel Rodrigo* would scatter by his Letter.

I sent an Abstract of your Dispatch of the 12th to the King at *Lieuncourt*, and his Majesty has answer'd it with his own hand, at the side of the Articles which requir'd it: So that tho' I have not the Honour to be near his Person, what you will find in that Letter is his real Intention.

He desires you will heartily thank Monsieur *de Wit* in his Name, for the kind and obliging Answer he return'd *Gamarre* as to what he told him on the Part of *Castel Rodrigo*, that the States ought to open their Eyes at this Conjunction, &c.

By the last Advices the King received from *America* by way of *Holland*, he is inform'd his Forces there have taken the Isle of *Montserrat* from the *English*, and that they were going to attack *Nevis*, but 'tis not likely they'll take it. Upon which his Majesty has ordered me to write to you from him, that if the *English* make any Instances to you for Restitution of the said Isles, you must make no difficulty of promising it, it being his Majesty's Intention, that if *England* restores *Acadia* to him, every thing be put in *America* in the Condition they were in before the War, provided the *English* oblige themselves reciprocally to do the same, as for any thing that may happen, and that their Arms take any of the Islands
or

or Territories belonging to the King, of which we may not yet have an Account.

In the Second Place, if the Plenipotentiaries of *Holland* demand restitution of *St. Eustachia*, *Tobago*, and the Colony of *Baumerona*, you must refer the Matter to his Majesty, and excuse your self as not having Instructions of his Pleasure therein.

In the Third Place, as to the new Proposal Count *Dobna* has made at the Instance of his Colleagues of a Suspension; his Majesty persists in his first Sentiments, that to hasten the Conclusion of the Peace, we shou'd not on our Parts consent to a Cessation of Hostilities, or only detain the Fleets in their Ports a little, to see what the Negotiation is like to come to, which will be soon seen.

In the Fourth Place, when they press you to make a declaration of his Majesty's Demands, in order to an Accommodation with *Spain*, answer, that I have written to you, that Affair may be better treated of here with Monsieur *van Beuningen*, than there. I have not inform'd his Majesty by an Extract of what you write me as to the charge you'll be forced to be at, to appear in as good an Equipage as the Ambassadors of *England* and *Sweden*: but I sent him the Letter you wrote to me upon that Subject, and he answer'd to this Article in the following words, *I would not have my Ambassadors appear in a worse Equipage than others: and indeed it is my intention to give them something more, if they are obliged to be at any extraordinary Expence.* He added; that he promis'd himself that you wou'd make a vigorous opposition, and easily obtain the End which *d'Isola* pretended to get resolv'd in the Assembly, by making them understand, that the Safety of the *Low-Countries* depended on the Peace.

POSTSCRIPT.

I add this to let you know, when they sent my Letter to Monsieur the Marquis *Fuentes*, he at first receiv'd it with a great deal of joy, and open'd the Packet with some impatience, hoping perhaps to find therein something else than he met with: but after he found what it was, it plainly appeared that his Countenance alter'd, and that he was in great confusion. He has since written me a Billet, in which he observ'd to me he would only make it known to Monsieur the Marquis *de Castel Rodrigo*, that the King would not answer the said Letter. I doubt not nevertheless he sent a Copy of mine; but as it may oblige the said *Castel Rodrigo* not to publish his Letter, I desire you not to let the Copy of my Answer go out of your hand till the said Letter has been publish'd where you are.

From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
Breda, May 26, 1666.

EXpecting the arrival of the Ambassadors of *England* and *Sweden*, we believ'd it was convenient in order to promote our Negotiation the most we possibly could, to confer with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States, as well to concert together what we had to propose, as to judge more easily by the Overtures that shou'd be made, in what might consist the greatest Difficulties we had to surmount: to this end we desir'd them to meet *Friday*, last the 20th of this Month, at my House; where being all met, the *Sieur de Beverning*, Deputy of the Province of *Holland* began the Discourse, and told us, that the
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Lords the States being entred into a War, and your Majesty and the King of *Denmark* not being engag'd therein, but to aid and assist them, it was their part first to explain themselves, by communicating to us the Instructions that had been given them by their Masters, which were in Substance, that they ought to establish for the Foundation of the Treaty which they were about, that all that had been taken or detain'd before, or during the last War, should remain in the Possession of those who were in Possession; and that all Claims should be laid aside, and both Sides should remain satisfy'd.

It was represented to him and his Collegues on this Head, that the Word *detain* could not be apply'd on their part, but to the Isle of *Pole-ron*, since 'twas the *English* who had detain'd, under Pretence of making Reprisals, the Ships which were found in their Ports.

In applying then this Term to the Isle of *Pole-ron*, 'twas to grant, that it had not in Truth been restor'd within the Time; which they deny, and they doubted not but it had been retaken by the Ships the Governour of *Batavia* had equip'd for that purpose, or abandon'd by the *English*, not being able to keep it; and in case they insist that it be granted by the Treaty, the Article may be form'd two ways, either by naming it, as perhaps *Nova Belgia*, *Cabo Corso*, *St. Andre*, and *Bonavissa*, and be nam'd on the Part of the *English*; or putting it in general Terms, that each of the Parties shall keep the Places which they are actually in Possession of at the Day of Signing. They persist nevertheless in the Design of its being exprest as they had propos'd, upon which we told them we wou'd endeavour to make the Word *detain* to be understood of Ships taken or stopt, unless some Expedient could be found out to satisfie them. As to extinguishing Claims on both Sides, we have al-

already acquainted the Ambassadors of *England*, that the best way to settle entirely the Affair, was to agree upon it, and that we should also keep to the same Discourse when the Mediators arriv'd.

The Second Proposition of Mr. *de Beverning* was, that by the Treaty concluded in 1662, between the King of *Great-Britain* and the States, it was incerted in the Articles 6, 7 and 8, that Rebels should be banish'd on both Sides, 28 Days after it shou'd be requested; that upon this Foundation, as they had a great many *English* Officers that were in the Service of the States, the King of *Great-Britain* pretended they ought to oblige them to withdraw elsewhere, and wou'd charge their Masters, in case of Refusal, to have broken the Treaty, which might furnish new Pretexts of quarreling. That they had also *English* Ministers in *Holland*, for not being willing to conform to the Ceremonies of *England*; that it might be demanded, that they should not be suffered, at least if some understanding was not come to, with the *English*, on those Articles.

It was answered with respect to the Officers, that putting in the Treaty a general Clause, importing an Amnesty for the Subjects on both Sides, they could no longer be considered as Rebels; and they wou'd avoid, by this means, to enter into the Explication of the Treaty of 1662, which the *English* wou'd settle for the Foundation of the present Treaty, as to what concerns the Ministers: That those who continu'd in *England*, had been subject to the Punishment ordain'd against the Non-conformists, if they Preach'd there against Episcopal Government; but that leaving the Country they cou'd not be treated as Rebels, since it was free in all Nations to change Habitations; besides, it did not appear to us necessary to give Jealousy to the *English*, to think thereon what per-
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haps never enter'd into their Hearts, and that 'twas much better to say nothing of it.

The Third Difficulty was upon the Letters of Reprisal granted to some *English*-men to take Place whatever Cessation of Arms was agreed upon; we answered, That in the general Article put in all Treaties, to revoke all Letters of Mart and Reprisal, they add these Words, *Whatever Clauses may be contain'd in such as were granted before, from which they derogated by the present Treaty.*

The Fourth was, That in the 22d Article of the Treaty of 1662, it was express, that the Letters of Reprisal cou'd not be exhibited 'till after Justice had been demanded by the ordinary Course, or that it had been deny'd or delay'd to be done; upon which the said Deputies propos'd to fix a Term of Four Months, and to add, that the Demand for Reparation of Damages receiv'd, should first be communicated to the Ambassadour, or to the Ministers of the Prince, or of the States, against whose Subjects the Complaint is made. These are the Clauses of the last Treaty made between *France* and the States. It was said, that this Explanation might be manag'd by the Mediators, as being equally advantageous to both Sides.

The fifth Condition was, That according to the Ninth Article of the Treaty of 1662, Commerce should be free upon the Payment of the settled Customs, and not intervening with the publick Ordinances; the States wish that this last Clause was refer'd, under colour that the *English* forbidding Forreign Manufactures, or making such sort of Regulations, the States wou'd do the same on their Side, which wou'd obstruct the Liberty of Commerce. It was represented to them, that it was common for all States to make these sort of Prohibitions, and Forreigners had no Right to oppose them; and that if they wou'd try to induce
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the *English* to come to some Agreement thereupon, it wou'd be more proper to do it, when they enter'd on a Treaty of Commerce which should be put off 'till after the Signing the Treaty. Monsieur *de Ruigny's* Billet was read again in this Place; Monsieur *de Beverning* had a Copy of it, which he had begun to read when he had propos'd at first that they shou'd remain in Possession of what had been taken or detain'd on both Sides. We desir'd him to finish the reading of it, that the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* might know, that the Negotiation was founded on the putting off the Regulation of Commerce 'till after the Peace: It was answer'd, That it was needless to have a new Guaranty for the Treaty that shou'd be made, which might be justify'd by the Letter written about the 13th Article of the Treaty made in the Year 1662, between *France* and the States, by which your Majesty promis'd to guarand not only the Treaties already made, but also all those that might be jointly made. It was represented also to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, who insisted strongly for this League, that it was not necessary, since the Treaty made with the King their Master subsisting, your Majesty wou'd be oblig'd to assist him when ever he should be attack'd. 'Twas added as a further Reason of the Needlessness of it, that of not giving the *English* occasion to complain, by saying, that when they labour'd to make a Peace, they had taken new Engagements to make War.

The *Sieur de Beverning*, in the last place, told us that Monsieur *van Beuningen* having pray'd your Majesty to restore to his Masters the Island of *Tobago* and of *St. Eustache*, taken from them by the *English*, and retaken by the *French* in the latter end of the present War, your Majesty had answered him, that he had sent his Orders thereupon, which oblig'd them to pray us to discover your Intentions,
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in hopes, that you having assisted them so generously, you will not keep what belongs to them. The Deputy of *Zealand* back'd strenuously the Instances of the *Sieur de Beverning*, and read us a Relation, by which it appear'd, that the *French* being come to the Assistance of the *Dutch*, who Besieg'd a Fort in the Isle of *St. Eustache*, in the time that the Capitulation was making, demanded upon account of Honour to enter first into the Fort, and made themselves Masters of it: We answered, That as this Fact had nothing in common with the Negotiation that we had to make with the *English*, we had not yet receiv'd any Orders from your Majesty, and that we should not fail to give you an account by the first Post, of what had been represented to us on the Part of the States.

The Deputies afterwards pray'd us to communicate to them your Majesties Demands; we told them, that as you had no particular Quarrel with *England*, which had preceded the Rupture, so you wou'd be satisfied if things continued in the Condition Heaven had put them; and for that, we should be contented with the general Clause, which was to serve for the Foundation for all the Treaty.

That we shou'd be glad if they would give themselves the Trouble to draw up a Draught of the Articles they wou'd have in it; that if the *English* wou'd specify them, we shou'd specify too, by naming the Island of *St. Christopher*, *Antegoa*, and others, which we may be in Possession of at the Day of Signing that of both sides.

We address'd our selves afterwards to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, who were desir'd to explain themselves; they promised us, without declaring themselves further, to make a Draught, and report it at the first meeting. The Deputies of the States deliver'd us a compar'd Copy of their Power; we sent them also a Copy of ours, and to the Plenipotentiaries

potentiaries of *Denmark*, who delivered us a Copy of theirs ; both of them appear'd to us to be in good Form as to the Substance. We might nevertheless have rais'd a Difficulty upon the Titles attributed to the King of *Great-Britain*, in the Power Sign'd by the King of *Denmark*, in which he is stil'd King of *Great-Britain, France and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith: This Title of King of *France*, given by one of the Allies of your Majesty, to one of his Enemies, had something in it that shockt us. The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* excus'd themselves, because being to treat with the *English*, they had at *Copenhagen* follow'd the common Stile ; we consider'd, that if we Sign'd a seperate Treaty with the Ambassadors of *England*, we might know nothing of what past between the Two Crowns, who might make an Act in which we shou'd not be concern'd. But before we came to that, we did not think we ought to insist on their sending for a new Power, because this private Communication was only out of Decency, and that the *English* only ought to examine the Validity of the Powers given by their Enemies.

The next Morning the Deputy of *Zealand* made us a Visit : he assur'd us that his Province desir'd Peace, but that she wou'd contribute every thing she cou'd towards it, that your Majesty may remain in Possession of the Islands in *America*, which have been taken from the *English* by your Arms, and belong'd to them before the beginning of the last War. He communicated to us also a Letter of the 13th of *March*, from the Island of *St. Christopher*, importing, that Monsieur de la Barr had changed the Resolution he had taken to attack the Island of *Nevis* upon an Information he had receiv'd, that they were Embarking 3000 Men aboard 28 Ships at *Barbadoes*, to undertake some great Enterprize. This Deputy added, he apprehended

hended one of the Squadrons gone from the Ports of *England*, would join these 28 Ships; and that all these Forces together wou'd make some Progress during this Negotiation; that he hop'd nevertheless the Five Ships gone from *Flushing* in the Month of *December* last, two of which carry'd 34 Pieces of Cannon, two of 20 Guns each, and one of 14, with 400 Soldiers, and supply'd with Provisions for 8 Months, wou'd arrive time enough to join the Forces commanded by *Monsieur de la Barr*, and secure the Principal Islands on that Side. He told us further, That the *Sieur de Barr* had ruin'd *Antegoa*, and carry'd off every Thing that he cou'd, in order to be in a better Condition to defend *St. Christopher*s.

We complain again to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, that their Power was conceiv'd in Terms that shock'd us; they own'd they had one in which the Title of King of *France*, was not given to the King of *Great Britain*. We press them to produce that only; which they promis'd us in the presence of the Deputies of the States. We were at the Ambassadors of *Sweden*'s House, who arriv'd the Day before at Ten a Clock at Night, because their Equipages were not ready. They propos'd to us immediately a Cessation of Arms. We oppos'd it, because the States Fleet being ready to put to Sea, it wou'd be difficult, not to say impossible, to persuade them to lose the Advantage they may draw from their Diligence, by appearing Masters of the Sea. It was added, That the Word which the King had given to keep his Fleet in the Port of *Brest* not being but for a Month, this Term was near expiring; and that we could no longer defer the Junction with those of the States, without justifying their Jealousies, and giving room not to doubt of our Accommodation with the *English*. It was reply'd, That if the Fleets appear'd upon the Coast of *England*, the *English* wou'd fly off. To which

it was answer'd, That if they put off the Peace upon this Consideration, the Mischief might fall upon themselves, and that they might soon prevent it, if the Peace was made in Four Days; which might very easily be done, since they had nothing to do but to take the States at their Word, and agree that each shall keep the Places they shou'd be possess'd of the Day of the Treaty; and that all Pretensions for the Losses sustain'd before, and during the War, shall be abolish'd on both Sides. The Mediators represented to us, That the King of England did not intend but what related to the Losses sustain'd during the War, and that what was reserv'd by the Treaty of 1662, and particularly, what concern'd the Ships nam'd the *Bonaventure* and the *Good Hope* shou'd remain.

They were desir'd to observe, That in the Letter written by the States to the King of Great Britain, the 24th of February last, their second Proposition conceiv'd in the Terms above express'd, was without reserve; and that His Britannick Majesty having accepted it, it could not be excepted.

They propos'd to accommodate that Matter thoroughly; we told them we wish'd it might be done, but that we had found the Deputies of the States resolv'd not to make any Alteration upon this Point, because their Instructions had been drawn after Monsieur *van Beyninghen* had written to their Masters that Monsieur *de Lionne* had assur'd him, the Earl of *St. Albans* had agreed to the Extinction of all Pretensions, without any Reservation.

I confirm'd this my self, having heard it from the Mouth of the said Earl, who discours'd with me upon the Subject of these two Ships before my departure from *Paris*. We spoke in the same Terms to the English Ambassadors, and acquainted them that the Peace was in their own Power. They told us they were inform'd, that the Plenipotentiaries of the States wou'd propose to alter some Things in the

the Treaty of 1662, and that the King of *Great Britain* wou'd never consent to it, particularly as to what concern'd the Flag. We promis'd them, that if they yielded in what related to *Polemon*, and the two Ships, we wou'd not suffer the *Dutch* to propose any other new Matter, and that their Offers being accepted and agreed to by us, as we conceiv'd, it was not the Interest of the King of *Denmark* to delay the Conclusion of the Treaty, which might be done in two Days. At last, after having press'd them to speak plain, they assur'd us, that they had written to *England*, and that they expected new Orders on Account of the two Ships, which have been already mention'd. We dispatch a Courier to give an Account to your Majesty of the Difficulties that Stop us; and beg you at the same time to order Monsieur *de Ruigny* to write to the Chancellor of *England*, to put an end to 'em. We have sent in Concert with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, and the States, the Originals of our Powers to the Ambassadors of *Sweden*. These Ambassadors made us a Visit, and shew'd us a Copy which they had themselves compar'd with the Original Powers of Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry*; they spoke to us also of the Suspension of Arms, and a Consideration for the two Ships; to which it was answer'd as before. We read in the Presence of the Allies the Copy of the Powers of the *English* Ambassadors, it was found to be good in Form, and we resolv'd to declare to the Mediators that we were ready to enter upon the Treaty.

I here send your Majesty the Copy of a Letter that *Sieur de Wit* wrote me, with the Project of Agreement for Monsieur *de la Roch*, which I am not willing to Sign, without knowing first if your Majesty has any thing to say against it, because I conceive the *Sieur de la Roch* cannot arrive at the *Texel* in less than Fifteen days; and therefore there will be time enough to have an Answer before the

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Fleets can be in a Condition to act. I have endeavour'd as much as possible to prevail with my Friends that are in the Admiralty, to consent that the *Sieur de la Roch* should be Second in the Council of War to Admiral *de Ruyter*, but they write me 'tis impossible; that they cannot do so much wrong to their Vice-Admiral, and all they could do was to give him Place before their Rear-Admiral. Your Majesty will see by the Copy of the Letter from *Castel Rodrigo* to the States, and by the Demand made afterwards by *Don Esteven de Gamarre*, to have Commissioners appointed, that the *Spaniards* lose no Opportunity to insinuate into the People a Jealousy of your Majesty's great Power. The Friends I have in the Towns of *Holland*, assure me there shall nothing be consented to in all the Propositions of the said *Esteven de Gamarre* to the Prejudice of your Majesty's Service, about which I shall be on the Watch by my Correspondents, as well as the Distance of place will permit.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne.

WE have receiv'd, Sir, the Letter which you gave your self the trouble to write us the 20th of this Month. The Libel which the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* has taken the Liberty to send a Copy of to His Majesty himself, is not yet come hither. 'Tis probable enough we shall soon see it, since they have already sent here a great quantity of Copies, the same what you will find in this Pacquet; nothing is more insolent nor unjust; but if the Temerity is extraordinary, the Punishment will not be long coming after it. We shall not shew the Letter you wrote to the Marquis *de la Fuentes*, and to which it will be difficult for him to give an Answer.

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We shall explain our Selves to Morrow to the *English* Ambassadors, upon the Affairs which relate to what we have to regulate with them ; we expect for that Purpose, that His Majesty will let us know his Intentions as to the Island of *Montserrat*. You will see by the Letter that we have done our selves the Honour to write to him, that we have been inform'd his Troops have not yet taken the Island of *Nevis*. Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry* made their Entrance Yesterday, without giving us Notice of it ; so we did not send our Coaches to attend them. In all appearance those of *Sweden* will do the same, and this will prevent any Dispute to arise amongst us : The Equipage of the *English* is grand and magnificent ; the King their Master has given them (as Madam *Hollis* told us) each Ten Thousand Crowns for it, and Four Hundred Jacobus's ; that is to say, Five Thousand Four Hundred Livers a Month. We shall put our selves in a Condition not to be behind-hand in point of Expences, and we hope His Majesty will assist us to maintain it, otherwise we shall run the Hazard of falling into Contempt. We do not find the States are dispos'd to any Suspension of Arms, this wou'd be the true Way to make the Negotiation last. They have not yet propos'd any thing that appears unreasonable, and the delay comes from the Part of *England*, and the Mediators. We have shewn the Way to the first how to hasten it, if they had been willing, but after the Advances we have made, it had been needless, and against Dignity to press it further. As soon as the *Swedes* came, we omitted nothing to make it appear who it was that kept Things back so. If *Monf. d'Isola* attempts to set other Matters a-foot than what are contain'd in our Instructions, we shall oppose it as strongly as His Majesty requires, that they may be rejected. Monsieur *de Wit* presses me every Day to know what would content His Majesty, as you see by the last Letter he wrote me.

I answer'd him, That it was not the King's Part to explain himself; but it was for them to begin the Offer. We shall divert all the Instances that shall be made us upon this Subject, to the end that Monsieur *van Beuninghen* may have Orders about it for the Future. We have conferr'd with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States. The first had laid a Project, in which they demand the Restitution of the *Orcaides*, without even paying the Money borrow'd upon 'em, under pretence that the Possession was worth a great deal more than the Interest of the Sum lent by the Kings of *Scotland*. We have giv'n them to know, that we did not believe we cou'd do 'em any Service to obtain what they pretended to; and indeed they agreed, not to make the Demand, but to hinder the Prescription. They had also form'd an Article which concern'd the Publick Manifesto against the King their Master, in terms that would have provok'd the *English*. We advis'd them to soften their Expressions, and Monsieur *Beverning* is entirely of our Opinion upon this Point, as well as upon the other Articles, which were, to speak freely to you, ill enough digested. These Gentlemen, who are of a sweet and tractable Temper, have promis'd us to change them; and upon the Complaint which we had renew'd touching the Title of King of *France* attributed in their Power to the King of *Great Britain*, they have own'd to us that they have another where it is not; and have promis'd us to communicate it to the Mediators. Pray be not afraid that we will for that stop the Negotiation a Moment, in case of Difficulty we shall permit it, because it does not appear we know any thing, that the Copy of that which might satisfy the *English*, was deliver'd to them; but if this cannot be done without losing time, it is convenient that the King's Allies do not authorize a Title that the King of *Great Britain* usurps without any Foundation.

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The Plenipotentiaries of the States have only communicated the two Articles which are to be a Foundation for all the Treaty, and which concern the Extinction of all Claims on both Sides, and the Clause by vertue of which each should remain in possession of the Places either possess'd at the Time of signing the Treaty. We have alter'd some Terms that might be applied to the Isle of *Poloron*; by which it appear'd, that it had not been restor'd, which was contrary to what they endeavour'd to perswade us: All this went off very quietly and I believe they are still contented with our Proceedings as we have reason to commend theirs.

We made a Visit to the *English* Ambassadors, who have repeated to us, That the King, their Master, demanded Satisfaction in Money for the two Ships, the *Bona-venture* and *Good-Hope*, in lieu for the Loss his Subjects receiv'd in the Isle of *Poloron*. We have answer'd that the States declar'd, that provided the Alternative was accepted, all Demands shou'd be laid aside, and each keep what either possess'd; but they kept firm to that Point, and by the Temper we find the States in, we do not believe they will allow any Thing on account of the two Ships and *Poloron*. We have sent to compliment the Ambassadors of *Sweden*, and have press'd them to come *incognito* to *Breda*, without staying for their Equipage and Liveries, which cannot be got ready in Fifteen Days: We have mention'd some Examples that we have been whole Months *incognito*, not omitting to treat of Business, and that they might do the same, and advance this great Work by their Mediation.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne.

WE have sent you back *La Ferte*, imagining you may want him ; and as, since what we had the Honour to represent to His Majesty by the Post which went Yesterday, we have conferr'd very particularly with the *English* Ambassadors, and the Plenipotentiaries of the States, so we think it wou'd be convenient to explain to you more exactly than we cou'd in the Memorials that will be annex'd to this Letter in what the Difficulties consist, which hinder the Progress of our Negotiation ; that His Majesty being well inform'd, may prescribe to us upon a more certain Foundation the Conduct that we are to observe.

The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* thinking the *English* affected to receive 'em only at the Foot of the Stairs, the States Ambassadors fearing to expose themselves to the like Treatment, wou'd not give them the first Visit : Upon which, we did what we cou'd the same Day to accommodate this Affair. We found 'twas nothing but a Misunderstanding, and that the *English* Ambassadors had not been acquainted with their Coming in Time.

We agreed with them upon the manner which they made use of, and they conform'd themselves to the Method we had practis'd, which pleas'd the States Deputies. Yesterday we were with the *Swedes* Ambassadors, and engag'd 'em, tho' they had not yet their Equipage, and did not appear in Publick, to begin nevertheless to enter upon the Office of Mediators ; we sent them our Original Powers, and collated Copies for them and the *English* Ambassadors. They propos'd to us immediately to agree to a Cessation of Arms. We oppos'd it with all the Reasons cou'd be imagin'd from the Season
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and the Circumstances of the Fleets; and having remov'd all Hopes of obtaining any thing of the States upon this Point, we let them know it wou'd be easy for them to make a Peace. They promis'd us forthwith to set about it, but we very well perceiv'd that nothing cou'd be forwarded till Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry* had receiv'd new Orders; or, at least, that they had let the Time pass that was necessary for them to perswade us they are come.

MEMORIAL *Concerning the Difficulties that are between the Ambassadors of England and the States Plenipotentiaries.*

‘ **T**O explain the Difficulties which are now started between the Ambassadors of *England*, and the States Plenipotentiaries, it is necessary to observe, That in the Letter which the States wrote to the King of *Great Britain*, the 17th of *September* last, Their second Proposition was to make the Peace by keeping reciprocally what either Side had Taken or Detain'd before or after the Beginning of the War, provided that all Demands for the Things lost, suffer'd, and done as well before, as during the War, should remain extinguish'd and compounded.

‘ *Monsieur de Ruigny's* Billet to the Chancellor of *England*, bearing Date the 24th of *November* in the same Year, was conceiv'd in these very Terms; *You need only but accept the Second of the Two alternative Propositions made by the Dutch; which is, That every Thing should remain on both Sides in the same Condition they are now; without making any mention in this Billet of Things taken before and during the War.*

potentiaries of *Denmark*, who delivered us a Copy of theirs ; both of them appear'd to us to be in good Form as to the Substance. We might nevertheless have rais'd a Difficulty upon the Titles attributed to the King of *Great-Britain*, in the Power Sign'd by the King of *Denmark*, in which he is stil'd King of *Great-Britain, France and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith: This Title of King of *France*, given by one of the Allies of your Majesty, to one of his Enemies, had something in it that shockt us. The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* excus'd themselves, because being to treat with the *English*, they had at *Copenhagen* follow'd the common Stile ; we consider'd, that if we Sign'd a seperate Treaty with the Ambassadors of *England*, we might know nothing of what past between the Two Crowns, who might make an Act in which we shou'd not be concern'd. But before we came to that, we did not think we ought to insist on their sending for a new Power, because this private Communication was only out of Decency, and that the *English* only ought to examine the Validity of the Powers given by their Enemies.

The next Morning the Deputy of *Zealand* made us a Visit : he assur'd us that his Province desir'd Peace, but that she wou'd contribute every thing she cou'd towards it, that your Majesty may remain in Possession of the Islands in *America*, which have been taken from the *English* by your Arms, and belong'd to them before the beginning of the last War. He communicated to us also a Letter of the 13th of *March*, from the Island of *St. Christopher*, importing, that Monsieur de la Barr had changed the Resolution he had taken to attack the Island of *Nevis* upon an Information he had receiv'd, that they were Embarking 3000 Men aboard 28 Ships at *Barbadoes*, to undertake some great Enterprize. This Deputy added, he apprehended

hended one of the Squadrons gone from the Ports of *England*, would join these 28 Ships; and that all these Forces together wou'd make some Progress during this Negotiation; that he hop'd nevertheless the Five Ships gone from *Flushing* in the Month of *December* last, two of which carry'd 34 Pieces of Cannon, two of 20 Guns each, and one of 14, with 400 Soldiers, and supply'd with Provisions for 8 Months, wou'd arrive time enough to join the Forces commanded by *Monsieur de la Barr*, and secure the Principal Islands on that Side. He told us further, That the *Sieur de Barr* had ruin'd *Antegoa*, and carry'd off every Thing that he cou'd, in order to be in a better Condition to defend *St. Christopher*s.

We complain again to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, that their Power was conceiv'd in Terms that shock'd us; they own'd they had one in which the Title of King of *France*, was not given to the King of *Great Britain*. We press them to produce that only; which they promis'd us in the presence of the Deputies of the States. We were at the Ambassadors of *Sweden*'s House, who arriv'd the Day before at Ten a Clock at Night, because their Equipages were not ready. They propos'd to us immediately a Cessation of Arms. We oppos'd it, because the States Fleet being ready to put to Sea, it wou'd be difficult, not to say impossible, to persuade them to lose the Advantage they may draw from their Diligence, by appearing Masters of the Sea. It was added, That the Word which the King had given to keep his Fleet in the Port of *Brest* not being but for a Month, this Term was near expiring; and that we could no longer defer the Junction with those of the States, without justifying their Jealousies, and giving room not to doubt of our Accommodation with the *English*. It was reply'd, That if the Fleets appear'd upon the Coast of *England*, the *English* wou'd fly off. To which

it was answer'd, That if they put off the Peace upon this Consideration, the Mischief might fall upon themselves, and that they might soon prevent it, if the Peace was made in Four Days; which might very easily be done, since they had nothing to do but to take the States at their Word, and agree that each shall keep the Places they shou'd be possess'd of the Day of the Treaty; and that all Pretensions for the Losses sustain'd before, and during the War, shall be abolish'd on both Sides. The Mediators represented to us, That the King of England did not intend but what related to the Losses sustain'd during the War, and that what was reserv'd by the Treaty of 1662, and particularly, what concern'd the Ships nam'd the *Bonaventure* and the *Good Hope* shou'd remain.

They were desir'd to observe, That in the Letter written by the States to the King of Great Britain, the 24th of February last, their second Proposition conceiv'd in the Terms above express'd, was without reserve; and that His Britannick Majesty having accepted it, it could not be excepted.

They propos'd to accommodate that Matter thoroughly; we told them we wish'd it might be done, but that we had found the Deputies of the States resolv'd not to make any Alteration upon this Point, because their Instructions had been drawn after Monsieur *van Beyninghen* had written to their Masters that Monsieur *de Lionne* had assur'd him, the Earl of *St. Albans* had agreed to the Extinction of all Pretensions, without any Reservation.

I confirm'd this my self, having heard it from the Mouth of the said Earl, who discours'd with me upon the Subject of these two Ships before my departure from Paris. We spoke in the same Terms to the English Ambassadors, and acquainted them that the Peace was in their own Power. They told us they were inform'd, that the Plenipotentiaries of the States wou'd propose to alter some Things in
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the Treaty of 1662, and that the King of *Great Britain* wou'd never consent to it, particularly as to what concern'd the Flag. We promis'd them, that if they yielded in what related to *Polemon*, and the two Ships, we wou'd not suffer the *Dutch* to propose any other new Matter, and that their Offers being accepted and agreed to by us, as we conceiv'd, it was not the Interest of the King of *Denmark* to delay the Conclusion of the Treaty, which might be done in two Days. At last, after having press'd them to speak plain, they assur'd us, that they had written to *England*, and that they expected new Orders on Account of the two Ships, which have been already mention'd. We dispatch a Courier to give an Account to your Majesty of the Difficulties that Stop us; and beg you at the same time to order Monsieur *de Ruvoigny* to write to the Chancellor of *England*, to put an end to 'em. We have sent in Concert with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, and the States, the Originals of our Powers to the Ambassadors of *Sweden*. These Ambassadors made us a Visit, and shew'd us a Copy which they had themselves compar'd with the Original Powers of Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry*; they spoke to us also of the Suspension of Arms, and a Consideration for the two Ships; to which it was answer'd as before. We read in the Presence of the Allies the Copy of the Powers of the *English* Ambassadors, it was found to be good in Form, and we resolv'd to declare to the Mediators that we were ready to enter upon the Treaty.

I here send your Majesty the Copy of a Letter that *Sieur de Wit* wrote me, with the Project of Agreement for Monsieur *de la Roch*, which I am not willing to Sign, without knowing first if your Majesty has any thing to say against it, because I conceive the *Sieur de la Roch* cannot arrive at the *Texel* in less than Fifteen days; and therefore there will be time enough to have an Answer before the

Fleets can be in a Condition to act. I have endeavour'd as much as possible to prevail with my Friends that are in the Admiralty, to consent that the *Sieur de la Roch* should be Second in the Council of War to Admiral *de Ruyter*, but they write me 'tis impossible; that they cannot do so much wrong to their Vice-Admiral, and all they could do was to give him Place before their Rear-Admiral. Your Majesty will see by the Copy of the Letter from *Castel Rodrigo* to the States, and by the Demand made afterwards by *Don Esteven de Gamarre*, to have Commissioners appointed, that the *Spaniards* lose no Opportunity to insinuate into the People a Jealousy of your Majesty's great Power. The Friends I have in the Towns of *Holland*, assure me there shall nothing be consented to in all the Propositions of the said *Esteven de Gamarre* to the Prejudice of your Majesty's Service, about which I shall be on the Watch by my Correspondents, as well as the Distance of place will permit.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne.

WE have receiv'd, Sir, the Letter which you gave your self the trouble to write us the 20th of this Month. The Libel which the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* has taken the Liberty to send a Copy of to His Majesty himself, is not yet come hither. 'Tis probable enough we shall soon see it, since they have already sent here a great quantity of Copies, the same what you will find in this Pacquet; nothing is more insolent nor unjust; but if the Temerity is extraordinary, the Punishment will not be long coming after it. We shall not shew the Letter you wrote to the Marquis *de la Fuentes*, and to which it will be difficult for him to give an Answer.

We

We shall explain our Selves to Morrow to the *English* Ambassadors, upon the Affairs which relate to what we have to regulate with them; we expect for that Purpose, that His Majesty will let us know his Intentions as to the Island of *Montserrat*. You will see by the Letter that we have done our selves the Honour to write to him, that we have been inform'd his Troops have not yet taken the Island of *Nevis*. Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry* made their Entrance Yesterday, without giving us Notice of it; so we did not send our Coaches to attend them. In all appearance those of *Sweden* will do the same, and this will prevent any Dispute to arise amongst us: The Equipage of the *English* is grand and magnificent; the King their Master has given them (as *Madam Hollis* told us) each Ten Thousand Crowns for it, and Four Hundred Jacobus's; that is to say, Five Thousand Four Hundred Livers a Month. We shall put our selves in a Condition not to be behind-hand in point of Expences, and we hope His Majesty will assist us to maintain it, otherwise we shall run the Hazard of falling into Contempt. We do not find the States are dispos'd to any Suspension of Arms, this wou'd be the true Way to make the Negotiation last. They have not yet propos'd any thing that appears unreasonable, and the delay comes from the Part of *England*, and the Mediators. We have shewn the Way to the first how to hasten it, if they had been willing, but after the Advances we have made, it had been needless, and against Dignity to press it further. As soon as the *Swedes* came, we omitted nothing to make it appear who it was that kept Things back so. If *Monf. d'Isola* attempts to set other Matters a-foot than what are contain'd in our Instructions, we shall oppose it as strongly as His Majesty requires, that they may be rejected. Monsieur *de Wit* presses me every Day to know what would content His Majesty, as you see by the last Letter he wrote me.

I answer'd him, That it was not the King's Part to explain himself; but it was for them to begin the Offer. We shall divert all the Instances that shall be made us upon this Subject, to the end that Monsieur *van Beuninghen* may have Orders about it for the Future. We have conferr'd with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States. The first had laid a Project, in which they demand the Restitution of the *Orcades*, without even paying the Money borrow'd upon 'em, under pretence that the Possession was worth a great deal more than the Interest of the Sum lent by the Kings of *Scotland*. We have giv'n them to know, that we did not believe we cou'd do 'em any Service to obtain what they pretended to; and indeed they agreed, not to make the Demand, but to hinder the Prescription. They had also form'd an Article which concern'd the Publick Manifesto against the King their Master, in terms that would have provok'd the *English*. We advis'd them to soften their Expressions, and Monsieur *Beverning* is entirely of our Opinion upon this Point, as well as upon the other Articles, which were, to speak freely to you, ill enough digested. These Gentlemen, who are of a sweet and tractable Temper, have promis'd us to change them; and upon the Complaint which we had renew'd touching the Title of King of *France* attributed in their Power to the King of *Great Britain*, they have own'd to us that they have another where it is not; and have promis'd us to communicate it to the Mediators. Pray be not afraid that we will for that stop the Negotiation a Moment, in case of Difficulty we shall permit it, because it does not appear we know any thing, that the Copy of that which might satisfy the *English*, was deliver'd to them; but if this cannot be done without losing time, it is convenient that the King's Allies do not authorize a Title that the King of *Great Britain* usurps without any Foundation.

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The Plenipotentiaries of the States have only communicated the two Articles which are to be a Foundation for all the Treaty, and which concern the Extinction of all Claims on both Sides, and the Clause by vertue of which each should remain in possession of the Places either possess'd at the Time of signing the Treaty. We have alter'd some Terms that might be applied to the Isle of *Polemon*; by which it appear'd, that it had not been restor'd, which was contrary to what they endeavour'd to perswade us: All this went off very quietly and I believe they are still contented with our Proceedings as we have reason to commend theirs.

We made a Visit to the *English* Ambassadors, who have repeated to us, That the King, their Master, demanded Satisfaction in Money for the two Ships, the *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*, in lieu for the Loss his Subjects receiv'd in the Isle of *Polemon*. We have answer'd that the States declar'd, that provided the Alternative was accepted, all Demands shou'd be laid aside, and each keep what either possess'd; but they kept firm to that Point, and by the Temper we find the States in, we do not believe they will allow any Thing on account of the two Ships and *Polemon*. We have sent to compliment the Ambassadors of *Sweden*, and have press'd them to come *incognito* to *Breda*, without staying for their Equipage and Liveries, which cannot be got ready in Fifteen Days: We have mention'd some Examples that we have been whole Months *incognito*, not omitting to treat of Business, and that they might do the same, and advance this great Work by their Mediation.

From the Count d'Estades to Monsr. de Lionne.

WE have sent you back *La Ferte*, imagining you may want him ; and as, since what we had the Honour to represent to His Majesty by the Post which went Yesterday, we have conferr'd very particularly with the *English* Ambassadors, and the Plenipotentiaries of the States, so we think it wou'd be convenient to explain to you more exactly than we cou'd in the Memorials that will be annex'd to this Letter in what the Difficulries consist, which hinder the Progress of our Negotiation ; that His Majesty being well inform'd, may prescribe to us upon a more certain Foundation the Conduct that we are to observe.

The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* thinking the *English* affected to receive 'em only at the Foot of the Stairs, the States Ambassadors fearing to expose themselves to the like Treatment, wou'd not give them the first Visit : Upon which, we did what we cou'd the same Day to accommodate this Affair. We found 'twas nothing but a Misunderstanding, and that the *English* Ambassadors had not been acquainted with their Coming in Time.

We agreed with them upon the manner which they made use of, and they conform'd themselves to the Method we had practis'd, which pleas'd the States Deputies. Yesterday we were with the *Swedes* Ambassadors, and engag'd 'em, tho' they had not yet their Equipage, and did not appear in Publick, to begin nevertheless to enter upon the Office of Mediators ; we sent them our Original Powers, and collated Copies for them and the *English* Ambassadors. They propos'd to us immediately to agree to a Cessation of Arms. We oppos'd it with all the Reasons cou'd be imagin'd from the Season
and

and the Circumstances of the Fleets; and having remov'd all Hopes of obtaining any thing of the States upon this Point, we let them know it wou'd be easy for them to make a Peace. They promis'd us forthwith to set about it, but we very well perceiv'd that nothing cou'd be forwarded till Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry* had receiv'd new Orders; or, at least, that they had let the Time pass that was necessary for them to perswade us they are come.

MEMORIAL *Concerning the Difficulties that are between the Ambassadors of England and the States Plenipotentiaries.*

‘ **T**O explain the Difficulties which are now
‘ started between the Ambassadors of Eng-
‘ land, and the States Plenipotentiaries, it is neces-
‘ sary to observe, That in the Letter which the States
‘ wrote to the King of Great Britain, the 17th of
‘ September last, Their second Proposition was to
‘ make the Peace by keeping reciprocally what ei-
‘ ther Side had Taken or Detain'd before or after
‘ the Beginning of the War, provided that all De-
‘ mands for the Things lost, suffer'd, and done as
‘ well before, as during the War, should remain
‘ extinguish'd and compounded.

‘ Monsieur *de Ruvoigny's* Billet to the Chancellor
‘ of England, bearing Date the 24th of November
‘ in the same Year, was conceiv'd in these very
‘ Terms; *You need only but accept the Second of the Two*
‘ *alternative Propositions made by the Dutch; which is,*
‘ *That every Thing should remain on both Sides in the*
‘ *same Condition they are now; without making any*
‘ *mention in this Billet of Things taken before and*
‘ *during the War.*

' The Contents of the King of Great Britain's
' Letter to the States-General of the *United-Provinces*,
' wrote the 22d of April last, are as follows :

' We take Occasion to declare to you, That we^l shall ac-
' cept the *Alternative* which you have propos'd, that each
' Party shall remain in the Possession of every thing acquir'd
' on both Sides during the War. Which being granted, we
' order'd our Ambassadors to proceed in the present Treaty
' upon the Foundation of what was made between us in the
' Year 1662.

' That suppos'd, 'twill easily be observ'd that the
' Acceptation made by the King of *Great Britain* is
' not conformable to the Offer which had been
' made by the States ; The one mentions the Losses
' they have suffer'd particularly before and during
' the War, and the Demands arising in both Times.
' The other has no relation, precisely according to
' these Terms , but to what hapned during the
' War.

' In the States Offer there is no Mention of the
' Treaty made in the Year 1662. In the Accep-
' tation the King of *Great Britain* has pretended and
' made to this Offer, he has restrain'd it on one
' Side to the Time of the War, and extends it of
' the other ; because^e he establishes for a Foundation
' of the Treaty to do what was done in the Year
' 1662. This is the Cause that each Reasoning up-
' on his own Principle, and the Ambassadors meet-
' ing before they came to an Understanding, the
' Ambassadors of *England*, maintain'd, That by the
' Disposition of the Fifteenth Article in 1662, all
' Pretensions had been abolish'd, even to the 1st day
' of *January* of the Year 1659. but they have a-
' greed with respect of those that should arise after
' that Day, that they should be settled by Com-
' missioners ; and as to what concern'd the Ships
' *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*, that those that had an
' Interest in them might prosecute the Suit they had
' begun. That it is then reasonable, since the Trea-

ty of 1662. ought to remain in force, and the King of Great Britain has explain'd himself in the Acceptation of his Offer, upon what happen'd during the War, that all Demands which arose in the preceding Time, that is, from the First of January 1659, be regulated, as agreed upon; and as to these two Ships *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*, it should be determined, whether the Process shall be judg'd in the Assembly of the States-General as the Sieur *Downing* has demanded, or be referr'd to the Judges of the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, according to the States Desire, and that the Affair shou'd be thus accommodated, and the Recompence that ought to be given to the Persons concern'd. The Deputies of the States on the contrary insisted and said, That they did not offer to make a Peace, but upon Condition to compensate all the Losses and Demands which happen'd or arose before, and during the War; that if the King of Great Britain wou'd accept it clearly and plainly, they still persisted in it, and are ready to make the Peace on this Condition; but if he pretended to explain this Offer according to his Intentions, and extend it as he had done, they had rather break off the Treaty than do any thing more. Both Sides with too much Levity make that a Point of Honour which is not worth the Trouble. What puzzles us is, that *J. Courtin* having foreseen the Difficulty when I went to *Paris*, and having started it many times to the Earl of *St. Albans* and Monsieur *de Ruvigny*, when I was with them in the presence of Monsieur *de Lionne*; both of 'em always answer'd, That all Demands of whatsoever Nature ought to remain abolish'd on both Sides. I apprehend nevertheless that the said Earl of *St. Albans* rather follow'd in this his own Sentiments, and the Inclination he had to promote the Peace by Ways that appear'd to him most reasonable and quick, than the Orders he had

' had receiv'd. Besides, Mr. *Hollis* protested to us
 ' upon his Honour, he had read all the Letters writ-
 ' ten by the Earl; in which he assur'd us there was
 ' never any Mention made of these Demands: We
 ' took notice also of one Thing that may corrobo-
 ' rate what he affirm'd so positively thereon, that
 ' in Monsieur *de Ruigny's* Billet of the 24th of No-
 ' vember, which serv'd as a Foundation to all our
 ' Negotiations, nor in any Answer of the Chan-
 ' cellor of *England*, which has been communicated
 ' to me, there is not one Word which relates to the
 ' abolishing of these Demands. Nevertheless, Mon-
 ' sieur *van Beuninghen* has written here that Monsieur
 ' *de Lionne* told him of it as a Thing granted, and
 ' the States-General grounded themselves upon his
 ' Letter to form the Deputies Instructions; this
 ' cannot be alter'd without a great deal of Diffi-
 ' culty, because that Resolution having been taken
 ' in all the Provinces, it can't be revok'd without
 ' their Participation, and losing a great deal of Time.
 ' We have acquainted the *English* Ambassadors, as
 ' well as the Mediators, that the States wou'd not
 ' in any manner consent to a Cessation of Arms,
 ' and the only Way to hinder their Fleet going out
 ' and joining Your Majesties, was immediately to
 ' conclude the Peace. We have also gone farther
 ' to encourage the Ambassadors, who pretend to
 ' have Advice that the States Deputies will propose
 ' to alter something in the Treaty of 1662. We
 ' have declar'd to them, that if they abandon *Pole-*
 ' *ron*, and the Point of Demands, we wou'd en-
 ' gage to bring the States to a Peace, and imploy
 ' all the Authority His Majesty may have over
 ' them, to let them know that he cou'd not ap-
 ' prove they should make any Alteration in the
 ' Treaty of 1662, as in the other Articles: In
 ' a word, after we had explain'd our selves to them
 ' upon what concern'd the Matters that are to be
 ' regulated between *France* and *England*, and let
 ' them

' them understand that the Interest of *Denmark*
 ' shou'd not hinder us, we have so plainly made it
 ' appear that the Peace is in their own Power;
 ' that we had no more to do but to wait for the
 ' Answer they shou'd receive thereupon to what
 ' they have written to *London*. They understood
 ' very well the Condition of Affairs. They saw
 ' clearly where it must end, if the King of *Great*
 ' *Britain* wou'd have a Peace, and that he had not
 ' some other Considerations to delay the conclu-
 ' ding it, he wou'd send them Exact Orders; for
 ' they have told us, and repeated it many times,
 ' they had none to comply. If nevertheless they
 ' remain firm in the first Resolution, it seems there
 ' might yet be Expedients found out by which we
 ' might extricate our selves out of this Difficulty.
 ' The States insist upon it always as a Point of Ho-
 ' nour that the Suit which concerns the Ships *Bona-*
 ' *venture* and *Good Hope* be referr'd to the Admiralty
 ' of *Amsterdam*; if the *English* wou'd consent to it,
 ' which we believe we may be able to obtain, the
 ' Honour of the States wou'd be sav'd; since they
 ' have got the Terms of the Treaty of 1662, to be
 ' explain'd according to their own Mind. At the
 ' Extremity it might be propos'd to both Parties to
 ' refer to His Majesty's Arbitrement the Explica-
 ' tion of these Words, *Litem inceptam prosequi*, and
 ' also, even the Extinction of Damages if due;
 ' and it might also in these two last Cases, upon
 ' which the States shew'd themselves very difficult,
 ' be represented strongly and with a great deal of
 ' reason to the Deputies of the United Provinces,
 ' that their Honour being sav'd, as was said, they
 ' ought not for an Interest, at the bottom of so
 ' small Consequence, aim at ingaging His Majesty
 ' to continue the War any longer, which he car-
 ' ries on only to please them.

' This Discourse shall be forbore till after
 ' the Affair of *Polemon* be settl'd, as they desire;
 ' unto

‘ unto which we plainly see the *English* will yield
 ‘ because the Propositions of Recompences to Particulars, if they yield the Sovereignty, gives us
 ‘ reason to hope for’t.

‘ But to put an end to these Matters with Diligence and according to His Majesty’s Design, it
 ‘ seems to be very necessary that Monsieur *Ruvigny*
 ‘ write to the Chancellor, That if His *Britannick*
 ‘ Majesty sincerely desires Peace, the only Way to
 ‘ do it speedily is, that the Ambassadors shou’d now
 ‘ explain themselves, without reserve, upon these
 ‘ two Points, and leave us to do the rest ; for according to all appearance the People wish here
 ‘ for a Peace, and *have need of it* : Those that govern them, will have a great deal of difficulty to
 ‘ ingage them to pretend to any other Matters than
 ‘ those which have been communicated to us ; and
 ‘ when we come to declare our selves, and they see
 ‘ we are agreed with *England*, they won’t long run
 ‘ the Hazard of continuing alone embroild in a
 ‘ War ; which the King of *Denmark* who fears *England*, and the *Swedes*, will soon get out of, when
 ‘ *France* has shewn them the Way.

A N S W E R *Of the most serene Queen of Spain, to the Most Christian King’s Letter written to Her Majesty the 9th of May. Madrid the 21st of May, 1667.*

MOST High, most Excellent, and most Potent Prince, Our most dear good Brother ; the Archbishop of *Ambrun*, your Majesty’s Ambassador at this Court, has deliver’d me your Majesty’s Letter of the 9th Currant, accompanied with a Book and a Writing of yours representing largely the Motives that induc’d your Majesty to take up Arms, by vertue of the Rights which are said to belong to you

you upon the Provinces of the Low-Countries; as to which, you will be satisfy'd more particularly. But in the mean time, I have not been willing to defer answering the aforementioned Letter, which has caus'd in me a great Admiration by the Novelty of such a Design: And tho' your Majesty insinuates that the most Christian Queen, my Sister, (who is in Glory) acquainted the Marquis *de la Fuentes* with it, and I well remember that he wrote to me upon this Affair, I always believ'd that it was nothing but Domestick Discourse, and in confidence, since this was not done with the Formalities of an Ambassador, or of your Majesty's Minister, or in your Royal Name; and I am so much the more confirm'd in the Truth of this, because having answer'd the Marquis a small part of the many Things I was able to say, no more was said of it; and the being silent after it, must be because Information had been given of the Right of the King, my Son, and 'twas plainly acknowledg'd. Besides, that this Insinuation was not made at all with the requisite Formalities by the Articles of Peace, in order to prevent the Rupture, principally having regard to what is certain was stipulated in the 90th Article of the *Pyrenean Treaty*. That Demands of this Nature, tho' they had not been renounc'd, ought not to be prosecuted by Arms, but by an amicable Way and Course of Justice: And since your Majesty says now that you are ready to make an amicable Accommodation, I agree to it also most willingly, being (as I am) dispos'd to enter into a Conference upon the said Rights; and that they Examine the Justice of 'em, or the Means of Agreement; to effect which we will appoint Persons and a Place of Meeting: but 'tis nevertheless necessary that in the Interim, both Parties should forbear all manner of Ways of Hostility and Arms; hoping that your Majesty will be satisfy'd with this Offer, since, if it shall not be found convenient, I am oblig'd

lig'd in Conscience, and by the Royal-Office of Guardianship of the King, my Son, to defend his Lawful Right by the same Ways.

From Monsf. de Lionne to the Count d'Estrades.

May 31. 1667.

I Take hold of the Opportunity of the Courier that returns to *Paris*, to say a Word or two of what has happen'd, expecting that we shall have occasion to give you more considerable News, which I hope by the Blessing of God will be very soon, if we may judge of it by the Quality of the King's Forces, and the Weakness and Consternation of our Adversaries. His Majesty departed the 25th from *Amiens*, and posted himself with the greatest Body of his Army upon the River *d'Ancre*: From thence he came to *Castelet* and *Chatteau Cambresis*, and *Quesnoy*, and march'd immediately towards *Charleroy*; which as you know, is not above eight Leagues from *Brussels*. He thought it proper that Monsieur *le Tellier*, Monsieur *Colbert*, and my self should take another Rout, and come with a Body of 15000 Foot and 3000 Horse, under the Command of the Marquis *de Duras*, having also Twelve Pieces of Cannon by *La Terre*, *Capelle* and *Avennes*; and we are now upon the Confines of the Country of *Leige*, within four Hours march of *Charleroy*, that famous Place which Monsieur the Marquis *de Castle Rodrigo* hath taken so much Care to build within a Year, and is the most important Post of all in the Low-Countries; our Body will this day pass the *Sambre*, and may very well join His Majesty in the Evening. However the Marquis did not think it his Duty to hazard the Defence of his new Place. So he drew off the Cannon, and blew it up with Mines.

The

The Marquis of *Duras* receiv'd Orders three Days ago, upon some advice His Majesty had receiv'd of this Design of the Governor of *Flanders*, to make a Detachment of his Troops to seize the Post, and hinder them from ruining it entirely; and Yesterday in the Evening we receiv'd the News that Monsieur *Podwitz*, who commanded this Detachment, had possess'd himself of the Place time enough to give perhaps His Majesty room to put it easily into as good a Condition as the Marquis de *Casle Rodrigo* pretended to put it, if we had given him time. We were inform'd at the same time, that the said Marquis has caus'd the Fortifications of *Armentiers*, and those of *La Bassée* to be ruin'd; so that we may say that the Terror only of the King's Arms before they had the means of acting, have already cost the *Spaniards* three Towns.

*From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
Breda, June 2, 1667.*

THE Courier that we sent the 28th of the last Month carried a Memorial, which gave Information of the Difficulties that stop us.

They continue still, because that which the Ambassadors of *England* have dispatch'd to *London* is not yet return'd; they have earnestly desir'd us to apply our selves to the States Plenipotentiaries to get some Satisfaction for those concern'd in the Ships *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*: we have excus'd our selves, because it wou'd be to no purpose for the Reasons of which we have already given your Majesty an Account, and we have omitted nothing to convince them, that if they yield in this Point the Peace is certain; and that we shall make use of this Compliance of theirs, to prevent the going out of the States Fleet,

To say the Truth, Sir, 'twou'd be a strange Thing for an Affair that hath been already agreed to for the Sum of Fourscore and Seven Thousand Livres of this Country, Three Kingdoms and a Republick should continue a War that will cost so many Millions for the future. However, we find that the Peace at this time depends upon it, since according to what we can judge, the Offer that they have made us to form an Article which contains that Each shall hold in general Terms, without naming any Place, will put an end to the Difficulties upon the Subject of the Isle of *Polemon*. My Lord *Hollis* made known to us Yesterday in a particular Visit he made to one of us, that he and his Colleague should be contented if they specified nothing but by vertue of the general Clause, If the *English* had not been driven from *Polemon*, they shou'd remain Masters of it; and that if the *Hollanders* had taken it, (which they did not yet know) they shou'd acquire the Propriety, by the Dispositions of the Treaty which we shou'd Sign.

We have communicated our Powers to each other by the Interposition of the Mediators. They are all found to be in good Form, and the *English* Ambassadors have not taken notice of the Change in the Stile in that of the King of *Denmark*; there is only given to their Master the Title of King of *Great Britain*. The *Swedish* Ambassadors have agreed with us as what we assur'd them that they wou'd lose time if they stuck to a Suspension; and have declar'd that they wou'd follow our Counsel, and endeavour to settle the Affair throughly. In order to which, we have ingag'd the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and those of the States to give in their Pretences; a Copy of which we send to Monsieur de *Lionne*.

We have declar'd to them at the same time That all ours consisted in one Article, in which we shou'd only name your Majesty in the room

of the States of the United Provinces, after the Ambassadors of *England* have agreed, that each shall continue in Possession of the Places they shall enjoy at the time of Signing the Treaty. By this means, Sir, waiting the Return of the Courier dispatch'd to *England*, we shall prepare Matters; so that if the Ambassadors have Orders to comply, we shall have nothing to do but to explain our selves according to what is concerted between us. We have not yet discover'd any Design to mix, with the Affairs we treat upon, those that concern the Interests which the Crown of *Sweden* have to adjust with the States; nor also that they have a Desire to propose any thing touching the Differences that are between your Majesty and the Catholick King. Not that the Marquis de *Casle Rodrigo* does not use his utmost Efforts to dispose the United Provinces to give him Succours, as your Majesty may see by the Copy of his Letter, and by the Memorial Don *Escribo de Gamare* presented to the Assembly of the States; but your Majesty entring *Hainault*, fills the Minds of People with Jealousy and Fear of having too powerful a Neighbour. It is nevertheless probable enough, that they will not take any Resolutions against your Majesty's Interest and the Alliance you have with them, as long as they cannot be secure on the Side of the *English*; it is also in their View, that the Ministers of *Spain* propose to themselves the same End as we do, and omit nothing on their Part to promote the Conclusion of a Treaty of which no Overture had been made here, if by our Diligence to obey your Majesty, we had not engag'd the Mediators and the several Parties to explain themselves as to their Pretensions.

We have read to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, the Articles of Treaty made between the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth, and King *Francis* the First; in which, after Lyes given, they were contented

that all Injuries should be buried on both Sides. The Plenipotentiaries of the States, and particularly Mounſieur *de Beverning*, have insinuated often in our Presence, that they did not find that Kings ever made any Reparation therein; for which Reason we have oblig'd them to word the Article that regards these Injuries in Terms, which to speak properly, signify nothing; and tho' the Ambassadors of *England* shou'd reject it, as well as that of the *Orcades*, which is only propos'd to shew that Claim is not abandon'd. These Gentlemen, the Plenipotentiaries, wou'd not hinder the making the Peace; but it was necessary they shou'd mention it that the *English* might Answer them, and that we might also make it appear we had not been wanting to support their Interest after; we having done thus much for Decorum sake, we shall go faster; and if we are not stopt elsewhere, and the Council of *England* yields to the Point of the two Ships, we shall make it appear in spight of the Libels that are spread, that your Majesty has no design to promote the War between *England* and the States.

Monſieur *de Beverning* has been with me, to tell me that *Castle Rodrigo* sent to him, an Abbot from *Brabant*, to propose to him that he wou'd do his utmost with the States, to get them to Join their Arms for the Preservation of *Flanders*; which is on the point of being lost by your Majesty's entring it with an Army; That 'tis the Interest of the States to make this Junction, since your Majesty's design is to conquer them.

The said *Beverning* answer'd, That he wou'd rather advise the States to join their Arms with your Majesty's to procure you Satisfaction in your Demands; and that if *Castle Rodrigo* was prudent he wou'd have done two Things; The one to suppress all the infamous Libels he has spread at *Brussels*, which serve only to provoke your Majesty: And the other, immediately to propose to your Majesty the Coun-
tries

tries and Places which may satisfy you for your Claims, and then sent back the Abbot, after having communicated it to me and the Deputies of the States. By the Letters I have receiv'd by my Friends the Deputies of *Holland*, they appear to me to be all dispos'd to oblige the *Spaniards* to give Satisfaction to your Majesty in Countries and Towns near their Frontiers, and remote from their own, to take away all Umbrage that they could have of being Neighbours to so powerful a Monarch; That if His Majesty will trust his Pretensions to them, they wou'd manage Matters in such a manner, that they hop'd to oblige the *Spaniards* to agree by fair means or force. The Assembly of *Holland* have separated upon the Proposals of *Don Esteven de Gamarre*, and the Re-establishment of the Prince of *Orange* in his high Offices.

Monsieur d' Wit is gone to the *Texel* through the Towns of *Holland*, to dispose the Minds of the next Assembly not to listen to any of the said Proposals in this Conjunction, but to apply themselves only to see if there wou'd be a Peace; and in case they did not succeed, to continue the War vigorously against *England*. Admiral *de Ruyter* parted the 29th past from the *Maas* for the *Texel*, from whence he cannot go in Ten days, the other Squadrons that are to join him not being ready, according to the Advices we have receiv'd: And we are, &c.

*From the Marquis de Castle Rodrigo to their High
Mightinesses the Lords the States-General of
the United Provinces of the Low-Countries, The
20th of May, 1667.*

High and Mighty Lords;

BY the Letter which I understand the Most Christian King has written your High Mightinesses, you will have seen the Resolution he had taken to Invade this Country without breaking the Peace, under pretence that Satisfaction had been refus'd him as to the Right he pretends to have to despoil the King, my Master, of the Province of *Brabant*, and its Dependencies, as he declares in the *Manifesto* he has publish'd, and to which I refer my self: What I am to represent to your High Mightinesses upon an Accident of so great Importance, and of a Matter so irregularly acted, you will hear from the Ambassador *Don Esceven de Gamarte*, and also the Reasons which accompany the Cause of the King, my Master; hoping that your High and Mightinesses will Assist him on so sudden an Invasion, and I ought not to doubt of your High Mightinesses defence, from your Friendship, Neighbourhood and Correspondence, in a Danger that is common to both our States; and so referring my self to what he will tell you, I hope that Resolutions will be taken proportionable to your High Mightinesses great Wisdom, and to prevent a Common Danger, which not only threatens the States of the King, my Master, but also those of his Neighbours; and that it will be done with the Expedition that the present pressing Occasion requires. God as I wish long preserve your High Mightinesses,

Brussels,

Brussels the 20th of *May*, 1667. Your High
 ' Mightinesses most humble Servant; the Marquis
 ' of *Castel Rodrigo*.

MEMORIAL From Don Esteven de Ga-
 marre presented to their High Mightinesses
 the Lords the States-General of the United
 Provinces of the Low-Countries, the 17th
 of May, 1667.

' THAT by the Letter which the Lords the
 ' States General have receiv'd on the Part
 ' of the King of *France*, they have seen the Reso-
 ' lution he says he had taken to attack these Coun-
 ' tries without breaking the Peace, for refusing him
 ' Satisfaction concerning his Right; by which he
 ' pretends to despoil the King our Lord of the
 ' Provinces of *Brabant* and its Dependences, as he
 ' declares in the Manifesto he has publish'd, and to
 ' which we refer. That acting in so violent a man-
 ' ner makes it evidently appear to the Lords the
 ' States, what by our Example they ought to ex-
 ' pect; seeing that if the deceas'd King had not a
 ' Right to convey to his Sons what belong'd to him
 ' in *Brabant*, he cou'd much less have any to yield
 ' to the Lords the States what they possess of this
 ' Dutchy; because 'tis no more necessary to alie-
 ' nate than to possess. If Friendship, Relation, a
 ' Treaty so Solemn as that of *Munster*, and that of
 ' the *Pyrenees* be violated, and so express a Renun-
 ' ciation as that of the King and Queen of *France*
 ' be deny'd; the States General may easily see what
 ' they are to expect as to their own particular, since
 ' what they possess is not renounc'd to which the
 ' *French* aspire to set up an universal Monarchy. 'Tis
 ' now time to think of the common Cause and pro-
 ' vide for its Defence.

That the Lords the States wou'd consider, this being the *French* King's Aim, he hath procur'd with a premeditated and private Design, a War with *England*, to weaken the United Provinces, and after to triumph over both, being both unprovoked, and the States weary of the War. As to the Supposition of having demanded Satisfaction of the Queen, it is necessary that the Lords the States shou'd know that 'tis against what was suppos'd to be done; since the Manifesto says it was after the Death of the King that the Queen-Mother of *France* spoke to the Marquis *de la Fuentes*: Thus one wou'd construe by his Letter, it was the 13th of *August* that the Queen-Mother spoke it to the Marquis, not as a positive Proposition; nor cou'd the most Serene Queen give such an Answer, seeing Her Majesty did not then govern, the King not being dead; for he did not die till the 17th of *December*. From whence we may see this Supposition is ill-grounded, since 'tis far from the plain Truth. This makes it evidently appear, that they seek Pretexts to lull asleep those they will attack after us in the same Manner, and with the same Injustice. Let any one say then, if ever there were seen the like Proceedings, to violate so solemn a Treaty of Peace after a Renunciation, wherein was nothing omitted to avoid this Accident, and in which the most Christian King entirely consented, and the Queen's Majesty, his Spouse, before and after the Marriage having been not only accepted and comprehended in the Treaty of Peace; but moreover approv'd by the Parliament of *Paris*.

Since he has begun to usurp Countries by Arms and Hostilities, he says, he does not design to break the Peace; and affirms, he only wishes to oblige us to a reasonable Treaty, to which we shall always find him dispos'd; and without having treated or declar'd what he demands, he be-

gins by Hostilities, as his great Preparations make it appear.

And lastly, That the Lords the States wou'd consider the Proposition he makes, by his taking Possession of *Brabant* and its Dependencies; by which he clearly declares he comes to dispossess them also of the Share they have there, since they possess that which the King, say they, cou'd not alienate or prejudice the Heir. The Lords the States can no longer doubt, that he who disowns the Renunciation, breaks Friendship, and violates a Treaty sworn, will treat you in the same Manner as us; and seeing the Interest is common, and the Danger equal, I thought it proper to satisfy the Obligation of Neighbourhood and Friendship to inform the United Provinces of their Peril by our own, and to demand at the same time you wou'd provide for the common Defence, by making vigorous Sollicitations to the Most Christian King that he forbear Hostilities, and refer his Complaints to the Lords the States (which *Spain* is very willing to choose for Arbiters, tho' we know the strict Alliance they are in with *France*) and the other Neutral Princes, it not being reasonable that he should give us Laws, making himself Judge and Executioner of his unjust Pretensions; since the Queen will make no difficulty of giving him the Satisfaction that they shall judge reasonable: And if his Most Christian Majesty will not delay the Rupture, and consent to the Mediation and Agreement; the Lords the States will perceive his Way of Proceeding, and what his Design is against us both, and take a Resolution to join their Arms with ours, we may promise our selves, from so just a Cause, the Blessing of Heaven to put Matters upon a safe bottom, and preserve our selves from this Invasion and common Danger, the King of *France* will be oblig'd to give over so vain Pretensions and

and so ambitious Designs to oppress all his Neigh-
 bours. The Lords the States shou'd know that
 'tis propos'd under-hand, that if the Queen will
 yield up the Town of *Cambray* to *France*, and
 oblige herself to suffer him to act against all those
 that King has any Right against, and not join
 with them, nor break the Treaty for this reason
 or upon this account, he wou'd be satisfied and
 let us be quiet. The Lords the States may well
 consider what his Design must be, and that he has
 a Mind to swallow us up first, and the others af-
 ter; that it is most certain the States of the Em-
 pire have already sent to the King of *France*, to
 tell him he shou'd give Time for a Treaty, and
 refer the Difference to Arbitration without at-
 tempting any thing by Arms; that otherwise they
 shou'd be forc'd to join with his Imperial Majesty
 in our Favour, for the Empire cou'd not permit
 that he shou'd make himself Master of the Low-
 Countries, since that by so powerful a Conquest
 he would become not only Arbiter, but Monarch
 of all *Europe*, to which 'tis plain he aspires, and
 designs no less the Ruin of the United Provinces
 than ours.

There is no Argument more convincing (set-
 ting his Ambition aside) than that since he be-
 lieves he can maintain his decess'd Majesty cou'd
 not alienate any thing in prejudice of the Infanta
 his Wife, he may upon the same Motive and
 Foundation assert, that 'twas not in his Power to
 declare the United-Provinces free to the Prejudice
 of the aforesaid Dame Infanta. In short, your
 State may manage this Matter with usual Prudence;
 and if we cannot obtain any thing of our Neigh-
 bours who are concern'd in the common Cause,
 they can't complain if we are destroy'd, that we
 have not warn'd them in time to avoid their ruin.
 At the *Hague* the 23^d of *May*, 1667. *Gamarre.*

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsf. de Lionne,
June 2, 1667.

THE Deputies of the States^a communicated to us Yesterday the Advice they receiv'd from *Nants*, which imports, that Monsieur *de la Barre* hath taken the Island of *Montserrat*, that Thirty English Ships are arriv'd at *Barbados*, who had Retaken the Places on the Coast of *Guinea*, which *de Ruyter* took two Years since; This last Advice does not appear well confirm'd according to the Terms of the Letter we have represented to the Ambassadors of *England*, that if the Peace is not speedily concluded, the States, who perceive that this Delay is only to give Time to those who are upon Expeditions in the Western-Islands wou'd also put off the Agreement to have Time to compass their Designs, in which we cannot forbear entring with them if the War continues; that so it might happen that the Face of Affairs might change, which wou'd also alter that of our Negotiation; that it was therefore necessary that they shou'd explain themselves immediately upon the Point of the Ships we have taken to this Time if they cou'd do it. They answer'd us as before, that their Courier had been gone but Thirteen Days; and that they cou'd add nothing to what they had already told us, till they had receiv'd new Orders. *La Forte* parted the 28th, and is gone to Embark at *Flushing*. We have receiv'd Advice from the *Hague*, that the Lords the States have resolv'd still to continue their new Troops for six Months, during which time they will also pay their Subsidies to those of the Duke of *Lunembourg*.

From

From the King to the Count d'Estades and Courtin,
June 8, 1667.

I Receiv'd, by the Return of the Courier I dispatch'd to you, your Dispatch of the 28th past, and some Days after was brought me from *Paris* that of the 19th and 26th.

I have at this time, I foresee I shall have a long time so much indispensable Business, for the Direction and Operation of my Army, besides the time of marching, which cannot be otherwise employ'd, that I shall not have the means to answer but the most Essential Heads of your Dispatches, and that too very succinctly leaving the rest to your Prudence and good Conduct.

I was very well pleas'd to understand what was done during the Absence of the *Sieur d'Estades*, between the *Sieur Courtin* and my Lord *Hollis* at the first Meeting they had together. That the latter might know upon what bottom I shou'd proceed in the Affair of *St. Christophers*, and the other Places in *America*, as *Antego* and *Montserat*. As to *Newu*, I do not believe that it has been taken; That they then settled also on the part of *England*, a Foundation which was so necessary that the Differences of *Polemas* shou'd not break the Peace; and that the Regulation of Commerce be refer'd to the Treaty at *London*, and that at last the said Lord rightly understood of what Importance it is to the King his Master, to forward the Affairs; since he confess'd himself their Fleet was not ready, and that he was given to understand, I could not any longer excuse my self from sending out mine upon the pressing Instances Monsieur *van Beuningen* every day makes, on the Part of the States. This last Consideration as you write me, having touch'd my Lord *Hollis*,
when

when you had besides represented to him the Prejudice *England* might sustain, if it appear'd to all *Europe* that at the Time of concluding the Treaty, the *Dutch* remain'd Masters of the Sea ; and that this Inequality of Strength might be conceal'd from the World, by concluding and signing the Treaty immediately. I am surpriz'd that after this the *Sieur Coventry* has started two Difficulties or Demands, which both he and his Colleague might well enough judge the *Dutch* will not yield or consent to, and wou'd be well pleas'd on the contrary that they give them a plausible Pretence of *falling out*, if it can be more than ever with the *English*. I mean what the said *Coventry* said to one of you, about making good the Damages to particular Men which had Estates in the Isle of *Poleman*, and about the two Ships *Bona-venture* and *Good Hope* ; for as to the first Point their Demand will be insupportable, if they will not at the same time consent that the same shall be done for the Men that have Estates in *Nova Belgia*. And I do not believe the *English* will gain any thing by such an Agreement. And as to the Second, I have always understood by the Earl of *St. Albans*'s Discourse, that upon *Ruvigny*'s Letter, all past Demands shou'd be extinguish'd on both Sides ; so that I cannot believe if the *English* Ambassadors had not Power to abandon these two Demands, but it will have been sent from *London*, as soon as 'twas known, and that it has been represented to them by the *Sieur Courtin*, the Necessity to which I am reduc'd no longer to defer sending out my Fleet, unless you can write me that the Peace is made, or almost made, and that no Difficulty can prevent it. I have also wrote thereon to *Ruvigni*, that he mention it to the Earl of *St. Albans*. But this Way will be too long, and I expect or hope the Letters to the *English* Plenipotentiaries will soon produce the Effects we desire.

As to the Expedients you propose to get out of this *Embarras*, tho' the *English* shou'd stick to those Proposals, the First appears to me good, if you can prevail on them that the Affair of the two Ships be referr'd to the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, which the *Dutch* cannot reasonably oppose, since they have never pretended to any Thing else, and they will plainly see that the Enemy by doing so, seems to give the Cause up, and have no other Aim than to save his Honour a little more than by an entire abandoning of the Demand. But the Second Expedient does not please me, That the Differences be referr'd to my Arbitriment, as well upon the Explication of the Words, *Litem inceptam persequi*, as upon the valuing of the Satisfaction; for I shall be oblig'd to disoblige both Sides, which wou'd be avoided if it can be done. Nevertheless, as soon as the Point of *Polemon* is adjudg'd to the Satisfaction of the *Dutch*, I recommend to you above all things Resolution and Diligence with reference to them; and refer also to your Prudence to represent to them vigorously, when you think it necessary or convenient, that it will not be Just, their Honour and Interest being sav'd, to keep me any longer, for other Things of small Consideration, engag'd in a War that is a very great Expence to me, and that I maintain only to please them. As to the Conferences you have had with the Deputies of the States, and with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, In which each declar'd their Demands; I tell you on the first Point, I hope it will be easily regulated by abandoning, as the *English* are inclin'd to do, the Isle of *Polemon*. As to the Second which relates to the Rebels that are to be driven out of both States, by vertue of the Treaty in the Year 1662, you have very well answer'd, when you said, That the general Clause of Amnesty protects all the *English* Officers that have continu'd in the States Service; as to what concerns the Ministers it was free to all Persons

Persons to change their Habitations. As to the Third which concerns Letters of Reprizal, it will be easily *provided for*, by putting the Clause you have propos'd. As to the Fourth, I am of your Opinion, That the Explanations about the Time which is to prove the manifest Denial of Justice may be easily manag'd, since that Matter is of equal Advantage to both Sides. Upon the Fifth, you have very well answer'd, That every Prince has a Right to make the like Prohibitions, and no Stranger had a Right to oppose them ; That it wou'd by all means be most convenient to make the Alternative they propose, when they are at work about the Regulation of Commerce. Upon the Sixth of the Guaranty, as you have answer'd conformable to what I wrote you on that Matter, so I have nothing more to add. As to the Islands of *Tobago*, *St. Eustace*, and the Colony of *Baumerona*, I am not yet come to a full Resolution, and that Affair is not without *Difficulty*, and cannot be on any Account but of meer Favour, for the same reason that by all the Sea-Laws an Allie's Ship is reputed to be good Prize, when it has continu'd 24 Hours in the Enemy's hand. Moreover, as to the Resolutions I have taken concerning the Island of *St. Eustach* are not conformable to what has been told you there which wou'd not be maintainable ; nevertheless, provided I have in all other Matters Satisfaction from the *Dutch*, I am well enough inclin'd to gratify them in that.

In the mean time, I very well approve what you have done in the same Assembly, to explain my Pretensions without discovering, yet what I design to yield is to promote the Peace, the Islands that my Arms have taken this War in *America*. But remember above all Things, when the Treaty is drawn up not to forget the Caution which I have given you by your Instructions, that it be plainly stipulated with the *English* ; That if their Arms have since made
any

any Conquest upon me, of which we have no Advice, all Matters also shall be restor'd on their Part in the same condition they were in before the War, and that this Clause be express'd in Terms so plain and intelligible, that I may have an entire Security therein. Since the Demands of the *Danish* Ministers for the Islands of the *Orcades*, is only to prevent the Prescription, 'tis not worth troubling about it. I am a little more concern'd as to the other Point of the Satisfaction the King their Master pretends to, for the Manifesto of *England*. The King having some days since sent back the *Sieur Goes*, his ancient Resident, on purpose, who has hardly spoke to me of any thing else; to shew me how much he takes it to Heart. To speak the Truth, I wish I cou'd procure him some Satisfaction thereon, but I judge that Matter impossible at least not without breaking off the Negotiation which he himself does not desire. You must then so manage your self with the Ministers of *Denmark*, that they may be sensible both of my Good-will and my Incapacity. As to the full Powers they have communicated to you, where the King of *England* is also stil'd the King of *France*, since they have another, where the same unjust Title is not given, you ought so to order it with them, that they only present the last, in which the *English* cannot find any more difficulty than in those of the States Plenipotentiaries; wherein very probably they have not given the said Title to the said King of *England*: Nevertheless, if this may conduce to delay the Peace, you are not to stop at it; but dissemble the Matter, in case they make separate Treaties, as if you had not nor ought not to have any Knowledge of the Discussion that may be between the *English* and *Danes* of the Validity of their Power. The Duke of *Newbourg* whom I shall be very glad to oblige, has apply'd to me to have him mention'd and comprehended in the Treaty that shall be made. I answer'd, I shou'd be
very

very willing, provided there were any other Princes nam'd and inserted in the said Treaty, which I know not if the other Parties wou'd permit. And indeed, I do desire that in such Case it may be so done, not only for the Duke of *Neubourgh*, but also for the Elector of *Cologn*, who must be nam'd before him; as also the Bishop of *Munster*, if any of his Ministers make the like Application to you. I have Advice that the *Rbingrave's* Son has offer'd the Marquis de *Castle Rodrigo* to raise a Regiment of Foot for the *Spaniards* Service; and that he hopes he shall be assisted in this Levy by the Credit of his Father, who is at *Mastricht*; I wou'd have you let the Father know I expect rather to receive on this Occasion Proofs of the Continuation of his Affection, and that you make him also plainly understand, that if his Son undertake to raise this Levy, or any thing against my Service, the Effects he has in *France* shall make Satisfaction. I have little to answer to the Letter of the 19th, by which you have given me an Account of what pass'd in the Journey which the *Sieur d'Estrades* made to the *Hague*, to communicate to the States the Treaty of the Queen's Right, and my Resolution to enter *Flanders*, the said *Sieur d'Estrades* having answer'd so pertinently to all the divers Complaints that the *Sieur de Wit* had made to him, that nothing cou'd be better said thereon. I shall only add on the Instances the said *de Wit* has made by word of Mouth, and since by his Letter, which are yet urg'd more strongly here by the *Sieur van Beuningen*, to oblige me to explain my self upon the Conditions that will satisfy me for an Accommodation with the *Spaniard*; In the first place, that for the Reasons I think I wrote you, you will Judge your self that I cannot declare the Particulars of the said Conditions without a great deal of prejudice, whether they be high or moderate. In the second place, That after having seen the Answer I receiv'd some

Days since from the Queen of Spain to the Letter I wrote her; and being inform'd by the Archbishop of *Ambur* all that pass'd at *Madrid* on the Arrival of my Courier, I have now stronger Reasons than ever not to explain my self upon the said Conditions; plainly seeing that I cannot do this great Thing but very much to my Disadvantage, since the Archbishop has understood by the plain and intelligible Discourse of all the Ministers at that Court; that they thought of nothing but to defend themselves, and set as many Enemies against me as they cou'd, alledging they cou'd not yield any thing without making an irreparable Breach of the Queen's Renunciation, which they design'd to maintain in all its Vigour; even for every Thing which wou'd come to pass in case of the King's Death; adding, that if they wou'd do it they have their Hands bound by the Will of the deceas'd King, and by the Power of a Guardian always bound not to alienate any Estate of a Minor; That only to amuse me, as is easy to be seen, that the Queen of Spain answer'd as she did, That she was willing to enter into a Conference, and that there shou'd be a Place and Persons appointed to examine the pretended Rights which I claim; but upon condition that I immediately suspended all Ways of Action. Which is as much as to say, that by an imaginary Negotiation I shou'd give them Time to be prepar'd better than they are at this Time to defend themselves, and to bring their foreign Succours into the Low-Countries. In the Third place, *Count William* told me, That discoursing with *van Beuningen* upon these Matters, he made him agree that 'twas sufficient for the States to be assur'd by me they shou'd find me very moderate as to the Conditions of an Accommodation, when they shou'd have dispos'd the *Spaniards* to it, and they make me reasonable Offers; but that in the mean While it was not just to press me to explain my self of my

Ultimate Intention ; and particularly to a State, which tho' my Friend and Ally shows so much Jealousy and Umbrage at my Grandure, and makes it so evidently appear that she looks upon herself strongly engag'd to oppose the Increase of my Power, In the Fourth place, I observe that the *Sieur de Wit* with all his unjust Complaints made me but very indifferent Offers, from which I cou'd reap no Advantage, either for an Accommodation or my other Affairs. Since he only said I shou'd confidently explain my self on my Demands, and he wou'd do his utmost with the *Spaniards* to bring them to an Accommodation, This is all the Value he sets on the confident Communication of my Thoughts which he desires, and without this Confidence, methinks, he is enough oblig'd to do what he offers for the Interest of his Master's and our common Alliance. It wou'd be quite another Thing, if as Justice and Decency require, he had made it appear that he had already prevail'd on the States to acknowledge as just, which indeed they are the Queen's Rights as I have represented 'em ; and declare at the same time to the *Spaniards*, that if they do not immediately do me reason, the said States who are also engag'd by a Treaty to defend all my Rights, wou'd join themselves with me to oblige them to do it, and that afterwards he makes me real Offers in concert with the *Spaniards*, according to what he has been able to bring them to ; or not being able to bring them to any thing, to tell me if your Majesty wou'd content your self with such and such Things for your Demands, and the *Spaniards* will not consent to it, we will join with you in a War to force them to it in that case, as I have said, this wou'd be another thing ; and according to the Conditions the States might propose to me, they might oblige me to explain my self without any the least Imprudence on my part, or Prejudice to the Success of this Affair ; but instead of

that, makes Complaints that his Credit is ruin'd, threatens to abandon the Direction of Affairs, and go aboard the Fleet, which I shall be sorry for whenever he takes that Resolution : But I shall comfort my self with the Consideration of not having contributed any thing to it. All that I have further to say, relates to my Fleet's going out ; for which they have there so earnestly press'd you, and upon which the *Sieur van Beuningen* is not here silent. You may thereon positively assure the *Sieur de Wit*, and give my Promise, and the Word of a King, that I have no Communication with the King of *England* ; for it seems he has some distrust of it, and that it was that which made me keep my Fleet at this time in Port. But you may tell him, I have sent Orders to the Duke of *Beaufort* to be ready to sail when I shall command him, and that indeed my Intention is, he should immediately join the State's Fleet, which I shall do when I discover that the *English* do not take right Steps in the Negotiation of Peace ; but understanding by your last Letters, that the said *English* are dispos'd to abate of their Demands touching the Island of *Polemon*, which is probably the principal and almost the sole Stumbling-block to the Conclusion of the Peace ; and that there only remains two small Difficulties about Damages, which shou'd not hinder either Side from issuing so great an Affair, so profitable to all the Parties ; besides, that I flatter my self the *English* Plenipotentiaries will in Answer to the Letters they have written, receive Orders either to give up these two Demands, or adjust it to the States Satisfaction ; I wou'd not have them, the Affair being so far advanc'd, take it for Infalible, that I shall suffer my self to be drawn away by the Caprice of another to make a Bravado with my Ships at the Sea where we shan't find any Enemy, and to do nothing but alter the good Temper the *English* are in for the Peace, and what wou'd do me a Prejudice ; and what perhaps the States

States with by the so pressing Sollicitations which they make me to oblige the King of *England* to join immediately with the *Spaniards* against me, either before or after the Peace is made; and in short, a State in friendship cannot reasonably desire a Thing that will be unprofitable, and may become very prejudicial to it, and may become very prejudicial to an Ally; concluding nevertheless after all, that as soon as I perceive, as I have already said, the *English* start on their Side unreasonable Difficulties against the Peace, any Consideration of my own Interest shall not hinder the sending my Fleet to join that of the States, and force them to it. I approve the Project Monsieur *de Wit* sent you touching the Service and Rank in the Councils of *Sieur de la Roch*, who commands the Squadron of my Ships in *Holland*, that is to say, that he be seated in the Councils before the States Vice-Admirals.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count d'Estrades, and Courtin. June 8, 1667.

THE King thought the Post of *Charleroy* of so great importance for the Success of his Designs, that his Majesty is resolv'd to spend some days in repairing it well before he goes upon other Enterprizes. The Governor of *Flanders* had not time to demolish the Out-works, which are perfectly fine; within four Days the Place will be out of any Danger of Insults, and in four more it will be put in a good Condition. His Majesty will leave a strong Garrison under the Command of *Monsieur de Montaut*.

Monsieur Bidall having inform'd the King, that since the Beginning of the last Month, the *Spaniards* have stop't at *Antwerp* all the Letters His Majesty had written to his Ministers in the North, and as

we doubt not but the Letters which he wrote to the Kings of *Denmark*, and *Sweden*, and *Poland*, to impart to them his Resolution of entering *Flanders*, to which was join'd the Copy of a Book containing the Queen's Rights, and the Copy of His Majesty's Letter to the Queen of *Spain* of the 9th, were stop't at the said *Antwerp* rather than any other Letter, because of the Bigness of the Volume. His Majesty has written again to the said Kings and desires, that in directing these Packets to Monsieur *de Pomponne de Beziers*, and *de Terlon*, you join to each of them a Copy of the said King's Letter to the Queen of *Spain*, and a Copy of the Book of the Treaty of Rights, that they may each be presented to the Kings to whom they are directed.

Sign'd,

DE LIONNE.

POSTSCRIPT.

SINCE the Writing this Letter, we find that the Copy of the King's Letter to the Queen of *Spain* is printed, which we put into the Pacquets of Monsieur *de Beziers*, *de Pomponne* and *de Terlon*, and so the Ambassadors need only send the Books.

*From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
Breda, June 9, 1667.*

THE 3d of this Month Mr. *Coventry* making a Visit to one of us, read a Letter from the Chancellor of *England*, which he said he receiv'd the same Day; by which the said Chancellor declar'd, he did not believe the Earl of *St. Albans* had agreed that the Demands for the Ships *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope* shou'd be comprehended in the Number of those Things that were to be abolish'd by the Treaty, since he had never wrote any thing that might

might give room to imagin the King of *Great Britain* was capable of yielding up this Point, and that *Messieurs* the States had no reason to complain; since by being Judges, they wou'd be Masters of the Affair. The said *Conventry* added, his Orders wou'd not permit him, nor his Colleague, to desist from this Demand, and that he came on purpose, before he had seen the Mediators, to give an account of the Answer which their Courier had brought them. We reply'd, That we were the more troubled at this Answer, not being such a one as we ought to expect after what had been *done* at *Paris*; that we foresaw the States Plenipotentiaries resolv'd to continue firm to their first Resolutions; that also they had no Power to go from it, and that their Instructions having been form'd upon the Foundation that all Demands shou'd be extinguish'd on both Sides, they had not Liberty to come to any other Conclusion. We communicated the same Day to the Deputies of the Provinces of *Zealand* and of *Friseland* what had been told us; and as we had put the *English* out of hopes of obtaining any thing upon this Head, we thought also it wou'd not be improper to insinuate to the Deputies, that if Things came to that, and this was the only Difficulty which obstructed the Peace, and that they cou'd dispose the King of *Great Britain* to leave the Determination of the Suit to the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, the Honour of their Masters wou'd be secur'd, since they had oblig'd the *English* to renounce the Demand of referring the Affair to the Assembly of the States-General, which had serv'd as a Pretence to the War; the Deputies of *Friseland* express'd themselves, that if the other Provinces were satisfy'd with this Expedient, that which sent them wou'd be so too. He of *Zealand*, who is a Wise good-natur'd Man, modestly represented to us, That since the States abandon'd all the Demands their Subjects might justly claim upon account of the Seizing their Ships and

Merchandize before the War was declar'd, the King of Great Britain ought not to make any Difficulty to sacrifice one to promote the Peace; it not being of the Importance of those that were abolish'd.

The following Day the *Sieur de Beverning* who was not present at this Conference came to us, found us alone, and told us, with more heat than his Colleague had done, That he was astonish'd at our talking to them very differently from what we had done in our former Conferences; and he desir'd us not to alter our Sentiments, because he was certain the States wou'd rather continue the War than give up this Point; upon which also he declar'd to us he had Orders to break off, if the *English* refus'd to agree to a reciprocal Compensation. We answer'd him, we had not chang'd our Opinions; that discouraging the *English* we had taken from them all manner of Hopes: But that speaking to our Allies, we thought we might explain ourselves as to Friends; that upon this Foot we repeated to him also with the same freedom, That if the *Business* of the Ships cou'd not be ended by the Compensation, it wou'd be a great Advantage to the States if the *English* wou'd condemn themselves by desisting in a solemn Treaty from the Demand that *Downing* had maintain'd with so much Obstinacy, that we did not perceive the Ambassadors were dispos'd to accept this Expedient, that we should not take notice of it, but as a Means to procure an advantageous Peace for the States, that we did not doubt they cou'd yet continue the War a long time; but if they break off the Treaty, it was prudence to justify the Occasion of the Rupture to the Publick; That Foreigners, to say nothing of their Subjects, wou'd hardly understand what Reason they had to reject the Peace because they wou'd not be Judges; which is to say, Masters of deciding an Affair that wou'd be in their Power to determine for nothing, or for the Sum of Eighty seven Thousand Livers,

which

which were already assign'd. But, says he, we have four Degrees of Jurisdiction to go through, That of the Magistracy of *Amsterdam*, of the Court of Justice, of the Sovereign Court of *Holland*, and of that of Appeal in the Assembly of the States-General; all which will spin it out to a great Length: And for this Reason my Masters are willing at once to putting an End to the Differences with *England*. We aim at the same, reply'd we; but if we cannot prevail on the *English*, it is better not to break off a Treaty of Peace for an Affair of so small Consequence. He reply'd, 'Tis determin'd, Monsieur *van Beuningen* has written to us of it; and as soon as Monsieur *de Wit*, who is gone to the principal Towns of the Province of *Holland*, shall let them know the *English* have gone from their Word, it will not be difficult to dispose the People to a Continuation of the War; in which we hope His most Christian Majesty will not abandon us. We told him they ought to judge by Times past of those that are to come. That your Majesty, who had broken with *England* without any other Interest than that of keeping your Word, wou'd continue to assist the States; but that we thought they had so much Honour as not to make such an Use of the Alliance as to desire your Majesty shou'd continue longer expos'd to maintain the Expence of a Maritime War, if they cou'd put an End to it with Honour, that nevertheless to shew him with how much Zeal and Sincerity we wou'd support the Interest of his Masters, one of us wou'd go forthwith to Mr. *Conventry*, because the Post goes this Day for *London*; and not to lose Time, it wou'd be convenient the *English* Ambassadors shou'd have something Positive to acquaint the King of *Great Britain*. In Answer to what they told us the Day before on his Part. Accordingly, one of us went to Mr. *Conventries*, and told him as a Secret, we had spoken to the States Deputies, and that we found them so obstinate,

Merchandize before the War was declar'd, the King of *Great Britain* ought not to make any Difficulty to sacrifice one to promote the Peace; it not being of the Importance of those that were abolish'd.

The following Day the *Sieur de Beverning* who was not present at this Conference came to us, found us alone, and told us, with more heat than his Colleague had done, That he was astonish'd at our talking to them very differently from what we had done in our former Conferences; and he desir'd us not to alter our Sentiments, because he was certain the States wou'd rather continue the War than give up this Point; upon which also he declar'd to us he had Orders to break off, if the *English* refus'd to agree to a reciprocal Compensation. We answer'd him, we had not chang'd our Opinions; that discoursing the *English* we had taken from them all manner of Hopes: But that speaking to our Allies, we thought we might explain our selves as to Friends; that upon this Foot we repeated to him also with the same freedom, That if the *Business* of the Ships cou'd not be ended by the Compensation, it wou'd be a great Advantage to the States if the *English* wou'd condemn themselves by desisting in a solemn Treaty from the Demand that *Downing* had maintain'd with so much Obstinacy, that we did not perceive the Ambassadors were dispos'd to accept this Expedient, that we should not take notice of it, but as a Means to procure an advantageous Peace for the States, that we did not doubt they cou'd yet continue the War a long time; but if they break off the Treaty, it was prudence to justify the Occasion of the Rupture to the Publick; That Foreigners, to say nothing of their Subjects, wou'd hardly understand what Reason they had to reject the Peace because they wou'd not be Judges; which is to say, Masters of deciding an Affair that wou'd be in their Power to determine for nothing, or for the Sum of Eighty seven Thousand Livres, which

which were already assign'd. But, says he, we have four Degrees of Jurisdiction to go through, That of the Magistracy of *Amsterdam*, of the Court of Justice, of the Sovereign Court of *Holland*, and of that of Appeal in the Assembly of the States-General; all which will spin it out to a great Length: And for this Reason my Masters are willing at once to putting an End to the Differences with *England*, We aim at the same, reply'd we; but if we cannot prevail on the *English*, it is better not to break off a Treaty of Peace for an Affair of so small Consequence. He reply'd, 'Tis determin'd, Monsieur *van Beuningen* has written to us of it; and as soon as Monsieur *de Wit*, who is gone to the principal Towns of the Province of *Holland*, shall let them know the *English* have gone from their Word, it will not be difficult to dispose the People to a Continuation of the War; in which we hope His most Christian Majesty will not abandon us. We told him they ought to judge by Times past of those that are to come. That your Majesty, who had broken with *England* without any other Interest than that of keeping your Word, wou'd continue to assist the States; but that we thought they had so much Honour as not to make such an Use of the Alliance as to desire your Majesty shou'd continue longer expos'd to maintain the Expence of a Maritime War, if they cou'd put an End to it with Honour, that nevertheless to shew him with how much Zeal and Sincerity we wou'd support the Interest of his Masters, one of us wou'd go forthwith to Mr. *Coventry*, because the Post goes this Day for *London*; and not to lose Time, it wou'd be convenient the *English* Ambassadors shou'd have something Positive to acquaint the King of *Great Britain*. In Answer to what they told us the Day before on his Part. Accordingly, one of us went to Mr. *Coventry*, and told him as a Secret, we had spoken to the States Deputies, and that we found them so ob-

stinate,

finite it was impossible to convince them, that they had shewn us their Instructions which were so strict they did not permit entering into a Negotiation upon that Point; and tho' they believ'd it wou'd be proper to come to a Compliance, to which we did not find them any way dispos'd, it wou'd take up two Months time to get their Instructions chang'd; so that provided His *Britannick* Majesty desires the Peace, and wou'd give your Majesty an Opportunity to enter into a stricter Alliance with him, it was necessary that he agrees to give up that Demand, and accept clearly and positively the Alternative which has been offer'd him by the States.

Mr. *Coventry* reply'd, he wou'd not fail to give an Account to the King his Master, but he believ'd if the States were so difficult, he shou'd soon receive Orders to return Home. We answer'd, That the Projects which had been given shou'd be examin'd, and 'twas not to be believ'd a Negotiation so important as that which we were upon, shou'd be broken off on so slight a Pretence. After this, we return'd to Monsieur *Beverning* who expected us, and we told him what had pass; with which he express'd himself to be satisfy'd, and gave us Thanks.

The next day the Ambassadors of *Sweden* having desir'd us all to come to the Castle, we went to an Apartment we had chosen, because there are three Rooms together, in which we might the more easily confer with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States. They told us they brought the Answer of the *English* Ambassadors to the Project the States Deputies had deliver'd to them; and if it was accepted, the said Ambassadors offer'd to sign the Peace the next Day; that as they had nothing to add on their Part to the Answer they had made, they demanded also that the States Plenipotentiaries shou'd declare if they wou'd not propose any other Articles than those which were contain'd in their

their Draught, that as to what related to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, they had not made any Answer, because that immediately after the First Article they had plac'd the Fifth without expressing the other Four, upon which they had reserv'd the Explanation; but when they had explain'd themselves they wou'd not fail on their Side to discover at large the Contents of the said Project. We read the Answer, it was contain'd in three Articles: The First relates to the Establishment of the Peace, the Cessation of Hostilities, and the Revocation of Letters of Mart and Reprisal; which cannot admit of any difficulty on either Side. The Second which was the most Important contains Three different Propositions; That each shou'd remain in Possession of what has been taken on both Sides, from the 26th of *March* 1664, to the 26th of *March* 1667. That all the Demands for Ships stop't, and Merchandize detain'd or confiscated during the Intervals of these two Terms shall be extinguish'd and counterballanc'd on both Sides. That they shou'd not also pretend any thing for the Captures that shall be made Twelve Days after the Publication of the Peace in the *Britannick* Seas and Cape *St. Vincent*; from thence into the *Mediterranean* Seas, and as far as the Line within the Space of Seven Weeks; and beyond the Line Eight Months. The last Article contains, That the Treaty made in the Year 1662, between the States and the King of *Great Britain*, shall be executed according to the Form and Tenour, excepting the Points which are contradicted by the foregoing Treaty. The Plenipotentiaries of the States said, they wou'd examine the Answer; we withdrew a little aside with them: And after we came to the Mediators, we made some Observations upon the Second Article, representing to them that instead of putting it that what each shou'd take till the 26th of *March* of the present Year shou'd be kept, it wou'd be more convenient to fix the Time

to the Day of Signing the Treaty. They answer'd us, That something might be enterpriz'd before Things were dispos'd for the Signing; and that this wou'd change the Face of Affairs. It was reply'd, That this Inconvenience might be avoided, if the *English* Ambassadors wou'd accept plainly and sincerely the States offers; That the Treaty shou'd be sign'd in a few Days, and that the Fleet shou'd not sail from the *Texel*.

The said Plenipotentiaries said also they had some Explanations to demand touching the Treaty in 1662, which wou'd give them Occasion to add some Articles to their first Project; but they were forbid by their Instructions to enter upon any Thing, unless the King of *Great Britain* agreed to the Extinction of all manner of Demands; to which they did not find him dispos'd, since it appear'd by the second Article of the Ambassadors Project, that they have only mention'd such Claims as arose since the 26th day of *March*, in the Year 1664. That the last Article of the said Project, making the Treaty of 1662 to be in force; it necessarily follows that the Demands since the First of *January* 1659, and particularly that of the Ships *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope* were excepted; which shews plainly they had a Design to surprize them: for that the extinguishing of Demands from the 26th of *March* 1664, was not inserted in the Article but to stop their Mouths, as to the Compensation they might with Justice demand on account of the 120 Ships stop'd or taken against plain-dealing, and before there had been any Declaration of War which had preceded it, whilst the *English* remain'd in full and intire Liberty to make good all their Demands. The Mediators being withdrawn, the *Danish* Plenipotentiaries communicated to us the Four Articles they wou'd add to their Project, in which we found nothing that was not in all Treaties of Peace, and by Consequence nothing that cou'd obstruct us. The one was for the Deliv-

erance

verance of Prisoners without Ransom ; The other for a Cessation of Arms ; The third was for a General Pardon. There was only one Clause which we advis'd them to remove in case the *English* desir'd it, which is that Saying under any Pretence of no Violence nor act of Hostility on either Side, shall be committed for the Future, nor suffer'd to be committed, they add, even on Account of what happen'd at *Bergen*, which is extraordinary ; for in Articles of this Nature no particular Occasion is ever cited, as it may be observ'd by reading all Treaties, in which there is always an Article of this Nature, never express'd but in general Terms ; witness the Second of the Treaty of *Munster*, which may serve for a Rule to all those that draw it up in *Latin*. The States Plenipotentiaries read us presently after their Remarks of the Treaty of 1662, which consisted the most part of the same Things of which we have already given your Majesty an Account : We answer'd them immediately as we had done some days before to each point, wherein we omitted nothing to insinuate to them, that from the beginning of the War this Treaty of 1662 had been always look'd upon as the Foundation on which they ought to build in concluding the Peace ; and that if the *English* plainly and sincerely accepted their Offers, it seem'd reasonable to us that the Treaty shou'd be observ'd for the time to come, according to the Forms and Tenour of it. While we were with them, the Mediators came in and told us, The *English* Ambassadors were astonish'd at what the States Plenipotentiaries had mention'd of adding some Articles to make the Treaty of 1662, clearer ; for that in the Letter written by their Masters to the King of *Great Britain* the 25th of *November* last, it was said in express words, That if his *Britannick* Majesty was dispos'd after the Peace to proceed upon other Points which had been regulated by the Treaty of 1662, the said States wou'd easily
come

come to an Agreement therein. That upon this the King of *Great Britain* believing they did not raise any new Doubt as to the Observation of this Treaty, had not given any other Orders than to consent it shou'd be intirely observ'd ; and thus they cou'd not treat of the Alteration they propos'd to make. It was represented to the Mediators, that this Letter was later than that which contain'd the Two Propositions of the said States, and therefore the King of *Great Britain* shou'd first declare, whether he plainly and sincerely accepted the Alternative. Which being done, we shou'd think the States wou'd look on themselves oblig'd by the Words of their last Letter to execute the Treaty made in the Year 1662 ; we disputed some time thereupon, the States Plenipotentiaries saying, they cou'd not deliver their other Articles, if they were not assur'd, that all Demands shou'd be extinguish'd on both Sides ; the Mediators alledging the *English* Ambassadors had not Power to do it, and they cou'd not alter any thing of the Treaty in 1662. At last we told the former, that persisting as they did in their first Resolutions, it seem'd to us there was no hurt in opening themselves to the Mediators, because perhaps it might happen that the *English*, who apprehend as they have express'd to us, that the States might make some Propositions to which they cannot consent, wou'd give over that Thought when they find all they pretend to, and wou'd yield without doubt in the Affair of the two Ships, when they believe themselves sure by this Means to make the Peace on reasonable Conditions. Upon this 'twas agreed, That the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States shou'd trust all their Articles with us, as giving 'em by way of Communication to their Allies, and we in concert with them, promis'd the Mediators to deliver them the Copies which shou'd be executed, the day after ; we added in particular speaking to the Mediators, that if they wou'd use their Interest to dispose

dispose the *English* to accept the States Offers, that we wou'd on our Side make use of ours, to induce the said States if their Offices were accepted to agree to the Execution of the Treaty of 1662. We desir'd them also to make Use of the word *Channel* plainly, or the Channel between *France* and *England*; representing to them, that we cou'd not sign a Treaty in which the Streight call'd the *Channel*, was term'd the Name of *Britannick Sea*. They agreed we had reason for it, and promis'd us to make use of their Interest with the *English* to make them alter this Expression. The new Articles which we have mention'd, not having been brought us till the next Day pretty late; we cou'd not see the Mediators till the Day after, which was the 6th of this Month; we had a long Conference with them, in which, after having carefully read the Treaty of 1662, and the Observations made upon each of the Articles, we acquainted them with Two things. One, that some of the Remarks are of little Consequence, and there were some also we plainly saw the States Plenipotentiaries had not any Design to insist upon. The Other, that the true Means to avoid the Difficulty we shou'd fall into if we engag'd in a Treaty of Elucidations upon that of 1662, as they had done upon that of *Elbing*, wou'd be for the *English* to renounce their Demands for the two Ships which have been already so often mention'd. After having undertaken to discourse the *English*, in the Afternoon they told us, That they had been inform'd that the States Fleet was upon the Point of Sailing from the *Zuel*, and this wou'd break all Measures that they cou'd take. We went presently to the States Plenipotentiaries, who assur'd us that in three Days Monsieur de *Ruyter* wou'd put to Sea with Fifty Ships, and that the rest of the Fleet wou'd follow a few Days after. We forthwith acquainted the Mediators with it; adding, That if the *English* wou'd explain themselves, as to the two Ships, we wou'd

wou'd ingage to prevail on the States that the Fleet shou'd not go out in Eight Days, during which Time we might finish the Treaty. We thought it also convenient to tell the State of Matters to the *English*, apprehending with reason the Mediators wou'd not press them so much as we cou'd wish.

In the mean time, to promote the Affair and dispose the States Plenipotentiaries to become more easy, provided the Obstinacy of the *English* was not to be overcome, we went to 'em two Days ago, and told them, we believ'd all along that the Acceptation made by the King of *Great Britain*, of the Proposition to leave Things in the Condition they then stood, secures to your Majesty the Possession of what has been possess'd by his Arms in the *West-Indies*; That nevertheless after having spoke of it in this sense to the *English* Ambassadors, and having perswaded them that this Possession ought not to have any Effect, but with respect to the States; since it had never been mention'd elsewhere but in the last Letter the King of *Great Britain* wrote them, we have given an Account of it to your Majesty, that since we daily expected your Orders, and upon this Consideration deferr'd putting your Affairs into the Mediators hand; but we had now receiv'd Orders by which your Majesty will not permit us to consent in his Name that Things shou'd be left in the same condition as they were in the *West-Indies* before the Declaration of the last War, unless the King of *Great Britain* wou'd restore *Acadia* to you. That we were come to communicate this Resolution to them, forthwith to deal with them on part as freely as they had done with us; In the informing us of the Contents of their Instructions, and that your Majesty is chiefly dispos'd to comply as you did on that Head, to shew the Sincerity of your Intentions to put a stop to the false Reports that have been spread in the Provinces, and that they were founded only upon
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the Advice come from *Brussels*, by which they endeavour to perswade People that your Majesty is not for Peace but in appearance. And that in truth you wish the Continuation of the War, to weaken, embarrass and exhaust your Neighbours.

They demanded of us, if in restoring the Islands that have been taken from the *English*, we did not except that of *Tobago* and *St. Eustace*; for particular Reasons known to your Majesty, we promis'd them they shou'd be excepted in the Restitution. The Deputy of *Zealand* ask'd us also, If we had not receiv'd Orders on the Sollicitations which had been made, that your Majesty wou'd be pleas'd to restore *St. Eustace* to the States? We told him No, and that that Point being to be comprehended in the Treaty that was a-foot, Monsieur *van Beuningen* might more easily know your Majesty's Intentions than we, since we understood he had Orders to pursue it. We have Advice from the *Hague*, that they are there favourably dispos'd to an Accommodation with *Sweden*, that since that of *Bremen* the *Swedish* Army being at liberty, and the Bishop of *Munster* continuing his Levies, it gives Jealousy to the States, which oblig'd 'em to hearken heartily to an Agreement. We understand they are dispos'd to grant the Passports for the Four *Swedish* Men of War who are to go loaden to *England*, and from thence to *Portugal*; that they will discharge the *Swedish* Ships which were stop't, and contract what Merchandize are to be judg'd counterband.

And as to the Difficulties about *Elbing*, that Commissioners shall immediately meet to try to settle and put an end to them to the Satisfaction of both Parties; so that 'tis easy to judge by the present Disposition of Affairs, that this Matter will be accommodated. The States have commanded Forty Companies of Foot and Twelve Troops of Horse, to reinforce the Garrisons on the *Iffel*, *Friseland* and

Groningen; which will secure those Frontiers, in case of any Enterprize.

The States Fleet will not sail all together, the *Friseland* and *North-Holland* Squadrons not being ready, but Monsieur *de Wit*, who is at the *Texel*, has oblig'd Admiral *de Ruyter* to sail with Fifty Ships, which he is to do out of hand. Two Colonels and several Officers are put on Board with 28 Companies of Foot of the Land-Forces, that is, above the three Regiments of Marines. There are also two Engineers, embark'd with Necessaries for Bombarding; which shews that they have some such Undertaking a-foot. We did not fail to represent to the States, that such Designs in the present Conjuncture wou'd set the *English* against the Peace; and tho' they succeeded, the breaking off the Treaty wou'd be more prejudicial to them than any Conquest they might make; and if they did not succeed, the *English* wou'd be more stiff in their Pretensions. They agreed and seem'd to be sorry for what was done: 'Tis plainly a Project of Mr. *de Wits*, who has yet the Consent of the Province of *Holland*, of which he gave us no Intimation.

We just now receiv'd Advice from the *Texel*, that 50 of the States Men of War sail'd the 8th, with their Deputies aboard, and that the rest of the Fleet, being about 20 great Ships, will in 6 days sail after *De Ruyter*, who has appointed their Rendezvous at the *Thames* Mouth. The States are about giving out Commissions to 18000 Foot and 3500 Horse. They have not resolv'd yet where the Army shall assemble. The Provinces of *Guelderland*, *Friseland*, *Groningen*, and *Over-Yssel*, being for having 'em posted on their Frontiers, out of Jealousy of the *Swedes* and the Bishop of *Munster's* Arming.

Holland and *Zealand* are for posting it on the *Maese*, to Cover their Towns on the Side of *Brabant*, in case the War that begins there shou'd encrease.

encrease. The Count *de Dbona*, who arriv'd here Yesterday, is to return to the *Hague* to endeavour an Accommodation between the States and the *Swedes*; who seem dispos'd to conclude it. The said Count has declar'd he is to be join'd to the *Swedish* Mediator here. Monsieur *de Wit* is now at the *Goree*, to see the 28 Companies of Foot and several Officers who are to join the States Fleet embark'd.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne,
June 9, 1667.

WHILE the Letter, we did our selves the Honour to write to His Majesty, was transcribing, Messieurs *Hollis* and *Beverning* came to us. After having conferr'd with 'em, the former told us, and repeated it several times, his Master wou'd never consent that the Pretensions of Reservation, in the Treaty of 1662, that is, Those that have arisen since the 1st of *January*, 1659, and particularly those of the two Ships, be abolish'd. And the latter declar'd to us, That if the Ambassador stood to that, they had nothing to do but to go Home as they came. By what we can perceive, the King's entering the Low-Countries, and the Hope of seeing the *Swedes* at War with *Holland*, have made the Ministers at *London* change their Sentiments: On the other hand Mr. *de Wit*, whose sole Aim seems to be the Continuation of the War, wou'd be very glad the *English* wou'd furnish him with any specious Pretext to engage the Provinces to consent to it; for they depend so on the Abolishing of all Pretensions without Reservation, and thought so much upon what Monsieur *van Beuningen* has written them, and what Monsieur *l'Isola* caus'd *Friquet* to tell Monsieur *de Wit* 'twas a settled Point, that they look on the Difficulty started thereon as a Re-

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tractation of the Promises made by the *English*; and the Instruction of the States is so positive on that Matter, that they have left their Deputies no Liberty to come to any Composition in that Affair. The *English* complain the States wou'd by their Project overturn the Treaty of 1662; but we have taken away all room of Complaint from them, by declaring, that if they wou'd consent to the abolishing of all Pretensions, we wou'd engage to dispose the States to execute that Treaty plainly and faithfully, and to abandon all their pretended Elucidations, of which to say truth some cannot be justify'd, and Monsieur *de Beverning*, who is the most able Man here, is the first to condemn them. Things being in this Condition to gain Time, during which we may receive His Majesty's Orders, and hinder the Rupture, we have got the Mediators to enter upon our Affairs, and concerted with Mr. *Hollis*, That as to the Proposal of restoring *Acadia*, they shou'd write to *England* under pretence that this Demand was not thought of. In the mean While, we perceiving by yours of the Last past, that our Letters did not come to your Hands as soon as one cou'd have wish'd; one of us writes directly to Monsieur *de Ruigny*, That (if His Majesty permits him) he may press the Chancellor of *England*, to engage the King, his Master, to come to a final Resolution on the Point of Pretensions. The Project of the *English* is very captious, and that of the States, by adding to it the Remarks on the Treaty of 1662, and the new Articles we have communicated to the Mediators, is as unreasonable, as we have already observ'd; we shall bring them to more just and reasonable Terms if we can make the *English* get over the Point of the Ships, till then we don't think we ought to press the States, nor venture losing, or at least disquieting Allies, till we are sure we have no more Enemies.

From

From the Lords the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Low-Countries to the most Christian King. June 11, 1667.

S I R,

THE Advices we receive from all hands of the Levies of Horse and Foot made by the Bishop of *Munster*, in his own Country and elsewhere, oblige us to give Notice of it to those of our Allies and Friends, who have thought with us, that he cannot raise Troops beyond what are necessary to garrison his Towns, without giving us Umbrage and Jealousy. The Seventh Article of the Treaty we made with him in the Beginning of the last Year, at the Instance of several of our Neighbours; but especially, in Consideration of your Majesty, at whose Recommendation we gave him up our Interests and the Damage we might lawfully have pretended to; is so express in that, that we need only explain our selves thereon. And as your Majesty was pleased to be Guarantee of the Treaty in all its Points, we doubt not you will be willing to prevent the Mischief that may happen by these Levies of the Bishop of *Munster*, rather than find your self oblig'd to remedy it when it has happen'd; and then that you'll make no difficulty to second the Letter we write to his Highness, to get him to desist from those Levies, and disband such as he may have already made; not only by General Offices, but also by means which may give him to understand that he owes your Majesty that Satisfaction; since your Peace as also that of this State are concern'd in it. He has so behav'd himself to us, that we shall be excus'd by every one, if we make instances with all those who are engag'd to

it by that Treaty, to deliver us from the Disquiet the Levies made in our Neighbourhood give us. We know, Sir, your Majesty's Authority is alone enough to dissipate it; wherefore we earnestly entreat you to make Use of it on this Occasion, and make us sensible of the Effect of the Friendship you have promis'd this State, and the Guaranty you are oblig'd to, without which we cou'd not have thought our Peace with the Bishop wou'd be Safe. The *Sieur van Beuningen*, the Ambassador Extraordinary of this State to your Majesty has Orders to deliver you this Letter, and will have the Honour to discourse you more amply on this Subject; for which Reason we don't think we ought to detain your Majesty any longer, only to pray God, Sir, &c.

At the Hague the 11th June, 1667.

From the Lord Chancellor of England to Monsieur de Ruvigny, June 10. 1667.

I Cou'd wish, Sir, with all my Heart you were at Court; or at least, I wish you cou'd accompany the Earl of *St. Albans* to support what he has Orders to represent: For very far from drawing any Advantages from the Preliminaries already adjust'd, and so many Assurances of the King your Master's Friendship, his Ambassadors at *Breda* seem to approve of whatever the *Dutch* and *Danes* advance; whose Proposals are so extravagant, and so little conformable to what we have reason to expect, that 'tis impossible for 'em to have any good Effect. I confess, so strange a Proceeding, and so contrary to the Assurances given us, has extremely surpriz'd me; and I assure my self, you will no less wonder at it, and will as well as I, think it impossible to re-establish mutual Confidence,

dence, if the Ministers of *France* continue to act quite contrary to what was promis'd us.

From Monsieur Ruvigny to the Lord Chancellor of England. Paris, June 15, 1667.

My Lord,

I Receiv'd the Letter you did me the honour to write me of the 10th of this Month, and in it the Complaints you make me on the Subjects you say will occasion your having no Confidence in our Friendship: These Expressions very much surpriz'd me; for, My Lord, I have had and still have too much Knowledge of the King my Master's Sentiments not to publish in due Time the Sincerity of his Word and Conduct with respect to every Thing concerning you.

Your Letter speaks only in general of the strange Proceeding of our Ambassadors, without coming to any Particulars; but I have learnt by Monsieur *de Lionne's* and Monsieur *Courtin's* Letters, there are two Disputes which occasion this great Noise: One for the Satisfaction of the *English*, who have Proprieties in *Paleron*; The other, for that of the two Ships *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*. I have not till now heard talk of the First of these Disputes; As to the Latter, I have 'tis true heard it sometimes mention'd; but 'tis also true, it has been always said all Pretensions on both Sides shou'd be abolish'd to shorten the Negotiation, and not embarrass it with Difficulties. 'Twas never expected that the Article of the two Ships wou'd produce any, since 'tis found in the A'ternative, which leaves all Things in the State they now are; and because also that as often as this Dispute was in Agitation, it always appear'd that my Lord *St. Albans* did in some manner acquiesce in it, by finishing his Instances immediately.

'Tis true he still demanded that the Treaty of 1662 shou'd be observ'd, but 'twas always thought that Observation was not requir'd, but for the Restitution of *Polemon*, which was then the great and only Difference; and not for these two Ships which are of small Consequence, in comparison of Six Score Ships you took from the *Dutch* before the War was declar'd, for which they wou'd have demanded Satisfaction, if *France* had not given 'em to understand she wou'd never suffer they shou'd stand upon such a Pretension; and that 'twas under the Clause of the Alternative. After all this, My Lord, I desire you wou'd seriously reflect on the little Interest of private Persons concern'd in those two Ships; You know you are entirely Master of that Affair, and will consider that a small Sum of Money is sufficient to content them; as also that you have to do with People who desire nothing more than the Continuation of a War that secures them our Friendship, and the End of which gives them a just Diffidence. There are perhaps Persons who alledge the Point of Honour, but if they are sensible of it, they shou'd know Honour do's not allow the starting of Difficulties at a Time when the King my Master, has entred the Catholick Low-Countries. I know very well how jealous he is of his Honour, and that he'll rather hazard his Sacred Person and his Dominions, than be wanting in it. But know also his Majesty does not think little Circumstances ought to put a Stop to an Affair of so great a Concern as a Peace with the King your Master; you are very well satisfy'd, My Lord, that the King my Master has a long time courted the Friendship of yours; that to succeed in it he made no Scruple of speaking, and did not stay to have Overtures first made him. He has giv'n him the Choice of two Proposals, The King your Master has made Additions to that he chose; you are satisfy'd that the King my Master consented to 'em,

to re-establish Mutual Confidence to the Prejudice of your Interests, and we may say his Honour, if he did not know very well how far it ought to be consider'd. You cannot but remember he offer'd him to treat at *Dover*, and did not think his Reputation touch'd in giving your Master his Choice of the Place; Nay, not in proposing his Territories preferably to his own. You cannot but remember, that pursuant to your Council, the King my Master deferr'd the Execution of his Designs; and that in one of your Letters, you wrote me that such a small Matter, speaking of *Polemon*, which is without Comparifon of more Importance than those two Ships, shou'd never hinder the Conclusion of the Peace. However, since the King enter'd *Brabant*, it seems as if there was nothing to be done but to break with the *Dutch*, or force them to consent to the propos'd Pretensions. They may be compell'd to observe the Treaty of 1662, if you agree to the Abolishing of all Pretensions on both Sides before and after that War, as has been often offer'd with great resistance. This was the Reason that the States-General were given to hope for it, and expect it, no doubting being made 'twas yet your Intention. If this Pretension continues, 'twill extremely please Monsieur *de Wit*, it giving him a Colour to continue arm'd, the War is for his Interest tho' not for his Masters. Methinks the *English* are very much concern'd to separate us from the *Dutch*, and to unite closely with *France*, who passionately desires it. Is it possible that a Trifle can hinder a Peace so far advanc'd, and so advantageous to the two Crowns? I cannot so much as imagin it, when I consider the King your Master knows what's for his Honour and Interest better than any one: God direct the Concern'd.

In the mean While, My Lord, I tell you with Confidence, That the King, my Master, can continue this War and end it when he pleases; permit

mit me not to go any farther. 'Tis Time to close, and assure you I am, My Lord, &c.

From the Count d'Estrades to the King.

Breda, June 18, 1667.

TH E Courier the *English* Ambassadors dispatch'd to *London* arriv'd here the 11th of last Month. Those Gentlemen visited us the same Day, and read a Letter from the Chancellor; In which he acquainted 'em, the Earl of *St. Albans* had written him he had not heard talk of the two Ships, the *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*. He adds, The King his Master had it never in his Thoughts to comply on that Head, much less to abolish the Pretensions reserv'd by the Treaty of 1662, that is those that resulted from the Complaints made since the 1st of *Jan.* 1659, that His *Britannick* Majesty understood if he yielded up *Poleton*, your Majesty wou'd oblige the States to accommodate Matters, or treat without them, and was very much surpriz'd at the new Difficulty at which we stop'd; That to get over it, he had dispatch'd Orders to the Earl of *St. Albans*, to wait on your Majesty, and know your Majesty's Intentions. The Earl of *St. Albans*'s Letter which afterwards they interpreted to us, contain'd the same Thing, with respect to the two Ships; very far from being surpriz'd, we were confirm'd in the Judgment we had already made, that the Earl did not know what was in that Treaty, that after having talk'd without Orders, and according to his own Opinion he had rather disown what he had said to us, than justify a Thing not approv'd of at *London*. But since it had been of no Service to maintain the Contrary, after having represented to your said Ambassadors that they knew now as well as we those who have the chief Direction of the States Affairs, and desir'd the Continuation of

of the War wou'd easily engage the People to carry it on, if the King of *Great Britain* insisted on having the States *Prerensions* abolish'd and his own reserv'd : We told them since His *Britannick* Majesty had sent the Earl of *St. Albans* to your Majesty to clear the Misunderstanding in this Matter of the two Ships, and the Pretensions arising since the 1st of *January* 1659, we wou'd wait to see what Orders your Majesty wou'd be pleas'd to send us thereon; but cou'd beforehand assure 'em. we did not think we shou'd receive any to treat seperately ; And in the mean time, we wou'd communicate to them our Project, that there might remain no difficulty between us, when the Affairs of your Majesty's Allies were terminated.

The next day we carry'd the Draught of our Proposals to Monsieur *Fleming*, now alone, because his Colleague, Monsieur *Coyat*, dy'd four days after he was taken Sick. He deliver'd it to the *English* Ambassadors, who answer'd, they wou'd send it to their Master. As also the new Articles, and the Observations made by the States Plenipotentiaries. They made the same Answer as to the repeated Instances of the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* ; who press'd very much to have some News to write to *Copenhagen*. By this means, Sir, the Negotiation is in Suspence, and will not be set a foot again till the *English* Ambassadors have receiv'd Orders on what the Earl of *St. Albans's* Embassy shall produce. In the Draught, the Articles that relate to the Restitution of the Isle of *Acadia*, and what depends thereunto, are conformable to the Contents of our Instruction, and the Dispatches we have had the Honour to receive from your Majesty, you will be pleas'd to observe we affect to express that this Restitution shou'd be made to those who had Powers seal'd with the Great Seal of *France* and *England*, to avoid the Difficulty met with about that of *Polemon* ; the *English* pretending 'twas not made to him who had
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Power from His *Britannick* Majesty to receive it, and thereon they found their Accusations of Breach of Faith against the *Dutch*.

All the Articles are reciprocal, or taken from either the Treaty of *Munster* or that of the *Pyrenees*, or the Last made with the States, as that which relates to the Reprizals to be made for the Future.

We have thought it sufficient that the Liberty of Commerce be re-establiſh'd between the Subjects of one Nation and t'other, as 'twas before the last War, because we had no Instructions on that Point, and by proposing any Thing in particular we might have given the States an Opportunity to set the Regulation of Commerce a-foot which wou'd have retarded the Conclusion of the Treaty.

As to what relates to the different Terms, during which after the Publication of the Peace, there shall be no Restauration of Things taken; we conform'd our selves to the Sentiments of the *Danish* and *Dutch* Plenipotentiaries, excepting that instead of 8 Months beyond the Line we have put but 6, because the States hold Places very far in the *East-Indies*; much farther than the Territories or Isles your Majesty Possesses in *America*, and in the Isle of *Madagascar*. As to the Term for the Ratifications, it cannot be shorter than a Month, because they must come from several Places. We have not added the Article of those that are to be compriz'd in the Treaty, that being generally not nam'd till every Thing else is agreed on. Your Majesty will be pleas'd to give us your Orders thereon, for we are a little in doubt, whether in treating with a State separated from the *Roman* Church, we ought to mention the Pope and the Holy See, as 'twas done in the 122. Article of the *Pyrenean* Treaty, since that may shock the *English*.

Tho' your Majesty has publish'd all over *Europe* you have no Design to break the Peace with *Spain*, and that on that Foundation the *English* Ambassadors may

may pretend to name the Catholick King, without offending your Majesty, it seems nevertheless 'twou'd be better to avoid it; that Nomination may one time or other serve for a Pretext to a Guarranty.

The King of *Sweden* being Mediator of this Assembly, your Majesty will perhaps think he shou'd in decency be nam'd immediately after the Emperor, if the latter does nothing that may give us Occasion to oppose his Nomination. There are Princes compriz'd in the *Pyrenean Treaty*, who had the Honour to be then in your Majesty's Alliance, and have not renew'd it, since the Terms for which 'twas made are expir'd, as the Elector *Palatine*. There are others who have the honour to be admitted since, as the Elector of *Saxony*; so that as we are not inform'd of this *Detail*; which 'tis however necessary we shou'd know, to regulate the Termination; so we pray with your Majesty's Permission, that Monsieur *de Lionne* may form a List by which we may draw up the last Article when the Time shall come. Nevertheless, if we may come to a Conclusion before we receive your Majesty's Orders thereon, we will take the Expedient of drawing up this Article by the last of the Treaty of *Munster*; Which contains, That all those who before the Exchange of the Ratifications, or within Six Months shall be nam'd, shall with common Consent be compriz'd in it; since that Expression, with common Consent, will give your Majesty an Opportunity to exclude whom you please. The Republick of *Venice* is nam'd in the same Article with those Words, as Mediatrix, which we shall apply to the Crown of *Sweden*; and by this means not one of your Majesty's Allies will have any Ground of Complaint, and the King of *Sweden* will also be satisfy'd.

As to the Disputes which have arisen between the Provinces about the Post the States Army shall take, it has been resolv'd, That it should separate
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in entire Regiments, and be posted in the Places in *Groningen, Friseland, Over-Iffel, Guelderland*, and on the Frontiers of *Brabant*; in such a Disposition that they may be so got together upon Occasion. The States of *Holland* are assembled. One of the Points before 'em is an Accommodation with *Sweden*.

'Tis thought also they will come to an Election of General Officers. The Prince of *Orange's* Party will make all their Efforts to procure for him the Charges of General and Admiral; and to facilitate their Sollicitations, They propose he shall renounce the Pretension of Stadtholder. The Party now at the Helm don't seem dispos'd to hearken to this Proposal; They say, 'twill be Time enough to talk of it when the Prince is out of his Minority, which will be a Year hence.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne.

Breda, June 16, 1667.

SINCE the last Post, we have lost one of our Mediators, Monsieur *Coyet* died in four days of an *Erisipile* in the Belly, which took away the use of his Senses: He was the Soul of the Embassy, and that may embarrass us if the Negotiation goes on, and the Mediator be put to take Pen in Hand to reconcile the Differences that may arise; which will be difficult for Messieurs *Fleming* and *Dbona* to do. Monsieur *Coyet* was a very able Man and had the chief Place in the Confidence of the late King of *Sweden*, supplying the Place formerly held by Monsieur *Saloricy*. He has left 12 Children and no Estate, a fine Example for Ambassadors.

The City of *Hamburgh* has sent hither two Senators, who have been with us to desire they may be included in the Treaty of Peace with this Clause, That nothing may be demanded of her hereafter,
for

for the Damages the *English* have suffer'd in the *Elbe*, when one of their Ships were burnt by the *Dutch*. The truth is, that was done in a Place where the River runs between the Territories of the Kings of *Denmark* and *Sweden*; So that according to the Rules of Justice, tho' the *Hamburgers* cou'd not otherwise justify themselves, as they can, on account of a Superior Force; the River being common to those to whom the two Banks belong, Nothing ought to be imputed to them. We have told them His Majesty wou'd readily consent that all the An-seatick Towns, and particularly that of *Hamburg*, shou'd be compriz'd in the Peace if no body oppos'd it; but besides *England*, 'twas to be apprehended the King of *Denmark* wou'd cross such a Nomination, and that he might not, we advis'd them to make up the Differences between him and them. The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, desir'd us to talk to them on account of some Enterprizes, as they say, lately done by the Soldiers of the Garrison of *Hamburg*, who cut Palisadoes in the Territory the King of *Denmark* pretends belongs to him.

Monsieur *Spanheim*, who some days since declar'd himself a Resident in this Assembly, having presented Letters of Credence to all the Ambassadors, has overwhelm'd Mounseigneur *Courtin* and me with Memorials. The Confederates have also sent me some; to which 'tis impossible for me to Answer decisively. It was to explain the Arbitral Sentence; I shou'd say 'twas the Thought of the Envoys of *Sweden* and Mine, but as Quarrels arise every day about the Inexecution of our Judgment, 'tis not humanely possible, in Disputes of Fact, to judge if the Parties have executed or not executed, unless one was on the Spot. This is the Reason I went on purpose to *Brisac*, to deliver Monsieur *Colbert* a Copy of the Arbitrate Sentence, and discours'd him very amply on the Contents of it. I beg you, Sir, to get His Majesty to be pleas'd to send Orders that
what

what was pronounced shou'd be executed, and to let the Parties know, they must for the future address to him who is on the Spot; for if there's no Person authoriz'd to regulate these Matters, you'll be troubled with 'em as long as you live: and if you turn 'em over to me, I can't, being so far off and hearing but one of the Parties, know which is in the Right. As often as Monsieur Colbert wou'd, he enlighten'd us to the Explanation of our Regulation; I must give him an Account of the Motives, and I shall always be ready to give him all the Lights I can; but according to the Order of Judgments, Execution shou'd be made by a Commissioner on the Spot, and no Person seems so naturally fit for the Employ, as he who is Intendant of *Alsace*, and coming from *Philipsburgh*, he may easily take Cognizance of all the Affairs and Difficulties which shall be form'd on both Sides, or depute somebody to inform himself exactly of the Truth of the continual Complaints which will be always made his Majesty, as Arbitrator of the Princes of the *Rhine*.

Monsieur *de Beverning* told us to day, he had receiv'd Orders to press the Mediators to get an Answer from the *English* Ambassadors to the Draught put into their Hands; and if the latter persist in the Difficulties they make, to renounce all Sorts of Pretensions, in general, he will leave the Assembly. We acquainted Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry* with it, that they might excuse themselves, as they have already done; for that they have already sent the Draught to the King of *Great Britain*. These Gentlemen shew'd us Letters they had just receiv'd in which they were still order'd to insist on that Point. We read one of Monsieur *de Ruigny's*, in Answer to one of ours, wherein he acquaints us that all Pretensions in general were to be abolish'd. Monsieur *Hollis* shrugg'd up his Shoulders saying, He cou'd not imagin how this Misunderstanding came about
and

and that the Chancellor never wrote them, but he protested he never heard of this Article. Those who are at the Head of Affairs in these Provinces, and apprehend the Peace will be follow'd by a close Alliance between *France* and *England*, are very glad of a Pretext to engage all the Provinces to break off the Negotiation. There is an Expedient by which the King wou'd acquire Honour cheaply, give Peace, and save a great deal of Expence; but not doubting you have your self thought of it, if you can't overcome the Obstinacy of the *English*, we do not take the Liberty to propose it,

From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
June 21. 1667.

YOUR Majesty's Dispatch of the 8th, was not deliver'd till the 17th of this Month. We were with the *English* Ambassadors the same Day; and after having represented to them we cou'd no longer withstand the repeated Complaints the Plenipotentiaries of the States made us daily, for not joining the two Fleets, which your Majesty had done all you cou'd hitherto to avoid; but did not think you cou'd with Honour any longer defer executing what you had promis'd, unless the Peace was certain: We gave 'em to understand the only Way remaining to disengage your Majesty from this Embarrass, was to apply themselves to the Point of Extinction of Pretensions arising before the War. We had already made use of Monsieur *de Ruigny's* Letter, in which he declar'd he had always understood by the Earl of *St. Albans's* Discourse, that all Pretensions were to be abolish'd. In a word, Sir, we omitted nothing to oblige them to open themselves to us. They said their Orders were quite contrary to what we desir'd of them, and persisted not only in

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in the Reserve of the Pretension of the two Ships the *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope* ; But also in the Pretensions excepted in the Treaty of 1662, and founded on Complaints made since the 1st of Jan. 1659 We had the same Day a long Conference with the States Deputies ; in which, after having insinuated all the Reasons we thought capable of perswading them, that if the Affair of the two Ships were referr'd to the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, by the King of *Great Britain* ; besides, that he wou'd condemn himself, abandoning as he wou'd do the Explanation he wou'd give these Words, *Litem inceptam prosequi* ; they wou'd still have the Advantage to remain Masters of a Pretension which wou'd be adjudg'd by their own Subjects : But whatever we cou'd alledge they declar'd they were not at Liberty to come to any Composition in that Matter. They added afterwards, That if their Pretensions were not abolish'd, that might content them, but Sacrificing, as they did by their Offers, all those their Subjects might have, and particularly the Merchants of *Amsterdam* the most powerful of their Cities, 'twou'd be thought they betray'd their Interests, if in the present Situation of Affairs, and at a Time, when without standing in need of the Assistance of their Allies they had oblig'd their Enemies to quit the Sea, they shou'd let a Pretension of his *Britannick Majesty's* Subjects subsist. In fine, Sir, they seem'd so ready to break off about this Point, by giving the *English* Ambassadors an Opportunity to do it and return home, that we not being sure the latter wou'd depart from all their other Pretensions reserv'd by the Treaty of 1662, and reducing the Difficulty at which we stoop, to that of the two Ships ; we did not think 'twas time to press them any more, and render our selves more suspected. We are but too much so already, and Monsieur *van Beuningen's* Advices, and all those they receive from other Hands, have so perswaded them

them of your Majesty's taking Measures with the *English*, that 'tis not possible to efface this Impression out of their Minds.

There will remain no room for 'em to doubt it, when they find your Majesty's Fleet does not join theirs. As to this, Sir, we wish Monsieur *van Beuningen* cou'd not penetrate into any thing where he is; because the *Friseland* Squadron not being yet join'd, the State's Fleet is still also on the Coast of *Zealand*; so that the Case of the Junction will not soon happen, and by this means we shall avoid telling them the Contents of your Majesty's Dispatch. For if we make that Junction depend on the Proceedings of the *English* Ambassadors, the States Plenipotentiaries wou'd be sure to oppose us, by alleging, That your Majesty having understood that all Pretensions shou'd be extinguish'd on both Sides, and Monsieur *van Beuningen* having acquainted them Monsieur *de Lionne* had assur'd him of it, the said Ambassadors did not do fair, to insist on the reserving the Demands of the *English*, and abolishing those of the *United-Provinces*. That your Majesty may with the more certitude come to a Resolution on so great a Disagreement, we think it our Duty to represent to you faithfully what we observe in the Conduct of both.

The *English* Ambassadors don't seem at all to be earnest for a Peace, and whether they carry themselves so out of Vanity, or pretend thereby to conceal their Necessity, or are afraid of nothing this Campaign, their *Streights* Fleet being arriv'd; or are convinc'd, as is most likely, that there being a War with *Spain*, your Majesty will stand in need of their Master's Friendship, and confide in him more than in the States; they seem to expect some Division will arise among the Allies, and hope by that to have a more advantageous Treaty, or continue the War with more Ease, having to do with fewer Enemies.

Tho' they were well inclin'd, and wou'd really conclude the Affair, Things wou'd not go so fast as your Majesty seems to desire : For besides that these Gentlemen, like the rest of their Nation, are always ready to make every little Thing a Point of Honour, we see plainly they have no great Experience in these Sorts of Treaties, and when we conferr'd with them on the Explanations the States Plenipotentiaries propos'd about that of 1662, they seem'd so very much embarrass'd concerning Difficulties that at the bottom were of little Consequence, and to accommodate which, nothing is easier than to find out Expedients which wou'd in no wise touch the Essentials of the Treaty, that we perceiv'd, tho' we shou'd have surmounted the greatest Difficulties, we should still meet with others which wou'd consume a great deal of Time, especially now we have no Mediators to put Things forward, which is of the last Necessity in such Negotiations. In the last place, Mr. *Coventry* appears to us much more obstinate as to the Pretensions of the *English* Merchants, particularly that of the two Ships; for that your Majesty may know 'twas not without ground we made the Proposal you approv'd of, Mr. *Hollis* own'd they did not in the Main mind the Affair of the two Ships; and in the Heat of Conversation he told us in express Terms, The *Dutch* might do what they wou'd, and the Magistrates of *Amsterdam* shou'd be Judges of it. Mr. *Coventry* never went so far; 'Tis he alone who talks of the Demands reserv'd by the Treaty of 1662, and we have always found him extremely influenc'd by the Merchants who attended the Embassy. He has shewn us two Letters from the Chancellor, thereon directed to himself. In short, he has taken it upon him, and does not leave us any room to hope the King his Master will comply in this Point.

On the other hand, your Majesty will be pleas'd to consider, the *United-Provinces* stand in need of Peace,

Peace, the People suffer, they pay a great deal, and pay nothing ; but all the Provinces are oblig'd to follow the Sentiments of that of *Holland*, which is the most Powerful and Rich ; and this is govern'd by Monsieur *de Wit*, who manages it as he pleases.

Monsieur *de Wit* is full of Ambition, and wou'd above all things preserve the Authority he has acquir'd. He sees plainly if the War continues, the Province of *Holland* cannot be without him ; and that as long as it lasts, she will not re-establish the Prince of *Orange* in his Father's Offices ; he fears if a Peace was concluded because he shou'd not then be wanted so much, and wou'd become a Private Man ; nay, that he may be oblig'd to give an Account of his Actions, and try him for several things he has done, perhaps with a good Design against the Forms of the Government. This is the Reason he has made use of his Interest to hinder each Provinces sending a Deputy to this Assembly, thinking he may more easily govern a small Number than a greater ; and that having here a Man of his Cabal of great Capacity and Resolution, he shou'd be Master of the Negotiation. It has happen'd well for him that the *English* have started a Difficulty on a Point all the Provinces thought to be regulated, and which your Majesty lookt on as such, he cunningly makes use of this Occasion to break with them, and wou'd be sorry their Ambassadors did not talk as they do. *Beverning* presses to be gone, the Deputies of *Zealand* and *Friseland*, who have not by their Instructions liberty to change a Thing which passes for certain in their Provinces, dare not speak of it ; and as long as this Difficulty shall subsist, they cannot declare for the Peace.

That Monsieur *de Wit*, who has already engag'd his Country and your Majesty in this War, by sending *de Ruyter* to *Guiney*, without staying according to the Dispositions of the fourteenth Article of 1662, till the Term was laps'd, in which the King of Great

Britain shou'd have given Satisfaction for the Damage done by *Sir Robert Holms*, thinks he shall still be able to keep your Majesty and his Country in it; and without Examining if the Difficulty the *English* form be important enough to deserve to break off a Negotiation rather than get over it, he is satisfy'd he has so well manag'd the Cities of the Provinces, that all the Fault of the Rupture will not fall upon him; but be imputed to the Enemies of the State. •

To this end he has been in all the Cities, and as soon as the Assembly of the Province was to meet, we knew what wou'd be said, that we wou'd oblige them to make a shameful Peace. This is what he has spread up and down in his Journey to prepare the Minds of the Deputies not to agree to the Proposal of referring the Affair of the two Ships to the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, or suffer that the Demands of the *English* shou'd be reserv'd, in a Treaty in which all those of the *Dutch* wou'd be extinguish'd quite. It therefore seems to be of the last Consequence, that he shou'd at least be depriv'd of those specious Pretexts, and so to order Matters that the *English* consent entirely that the Demands arising since the 1st of *January* 1659 be abolish'd. For as long as they are for reserving them, they will act unfairly, and the *Dutch* will have reason not only to say 'tis not just those whose Affairs are in the best Condition shou'd comply in Things those who appear to be the weakest will not yield in; but also, that 'twou'd not be making a Peace, since the reserved Claims wou'd furnish the *English* with a Pretence to renew that War as often as they shou'd think to do it with Advantage. In the second place, it wou'd be just, for the same reason we have alledg'd, that the *English* shou'd depart from the Demand for the two Ships, and the Extinction of Claims on both Sides be general. Nay, this Consideration may be added, That what has been taken and detain'd unjustly from the State's Subjects,

jects, is much more considerable than what the *English* may lawfully demand, and that the Restriction the King of *Great Britain* has slip't in his Letter of the 13th of *April* last, when he declar'd he accepted the Alternative, which he has explain'd otherwise, was not fairly done, if one dare say so. For if his *Britannick* Majesty had explain'd himself thus, before he had receiv'd Passes for his Ambassadors, the States wou'd not have sent them. It had been fair to have known whether they approv'd of his Restriction, as he intended it; But when the States Offers were made, and he had their Passports, the King of *Great Britain* writing he wou'd cause his Ambassadors to depart in 20 Days after, thinking he cou'd not receive an Answer in that Interval, by an Explanation quite contrary to the Meaning of the Alternative propos'd by the States, he has overturn'd the very Foundation on which the whole Negotiation was to be built.

But in fine, as Interests change, if the *English* are invincible on this Second Point, 'twou'd be most expedient to reduce the whole Negotiation to this Difficulty only, and to be enabled to tell the States Deputies that all Claims on both Sides shou'd be abolish'd, and the single one which related to the two Ships, be referr'd to the Magistrates of *Amsterdam*.

'Tis not as we have already observ'd, but because in all appearance Monsieur *de Wis* prepares to break on that Article, and when it is known to all the World that so poor a Business as 50000 Crowns is like to hinder the Peace, Monsieur *de Wis* will have reason to fear his Mouth will be soon stop'd if he speaks against it.

As to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, we have let them know how much your Majesty desires to testify to the King, their Master, the Satisfaction you shou'd have in procuring him that which he demands on account of the Manifesto which has

been publish'd ; adding, however, we foresee if they insisted upon it, 'twas to be fear'd it wou'd give Occasion to breaking off the Negotiation. They declar'd they wou'd do therein what we shou'd think reasonable, and by what they said we have reason to believe that at the Extremity they will depart from it. They are more solicitous for the Confiscation of the Debt of 120000 Crowns, for which their King contracted with *English* Merchants. We have already inform'd Monsieur *de Lionne* of the Fact ; and we do our utmost to make the Plenipotentiaries understand that what they pretend is contrary to the Maxims on which the Articles of Treaties of Peace are form'd. We have advis'd the *Chevalier de Terlon* of it, that he may where he is endeavour to remove this Obstacle.

Your Majesty will see by the Draught we have address'd to Monsieur *de Lionne*, we have express'd our selves so clearly, that if the *English*, before or after the Treaty, had taken any Countries or Places belonging to your Majesty, they wou'd be oblig'd to restore them ; and 'tis not possible to take greater Precautions on that Point.

We have written to Monsieur, the *Rhingrave*, in the Sense contain'd in one of the Articles of their Majesty's Dispatch. We have not his Answer yet, but we must do him the Justice to own his Son engag'd against his Opinion and Pleasure in the Service of the *Spaniards* ; and he has declar'd to him he will not assist him in the Levies he's making for the Regiment of Horse he is raising. The Son has married the Heiress of *Hoostrate*, all whose Estate is in the Catholick King's Dominions ; and has lately obtain'd Sentence in a Process of 400000 *Francs* concern. Monsieur *de Castel Rodrigo* assisted him in it with his Interest : These Considerations were the Cause of his Engagement with the *Spaniards*. This very moment Monsieur *van Beuninghen* was with us, and told us, That having sent to know the Sentiments

ments of the Province of *Holland*, as to the Proposals made to refer the Affair of the two Ships to the Magistrates of *Amsterdam*, they had Orders to declare to us, That the *English* might choose either to liquidate all Pretensions on both Sides, or abolish 'em all; but the Province of *Holland* answer'd not only for herself but for all the Rest, That they wou'd rather continue the War, without your Majesty and the King of *Denmark's* Assistance, than consent that the Demand of the two Ships shou'd subsist by the Treaty. He wou'd then have gone to the *Swedish* Ambassador to have an Answer; we stop'd him, by telling him he cou'd not have it till the *English* Ambassadors had receiv'd the Draught back they had sent to *London*. This Man is always talking of going home; he says, he knows the *English*, that he has treated with them; and that nothing will be done, unless the Market be theirs; Such is his Disposition: and if Monsieur *de Wit* is hearken'd to, the Treaty will be soon broken off, unless this Point is agreed upon: The States Fleet arriv'd at the *Thames* Mouth the 15th of this Month. Since 'twas there, the *English* that were embark'd for *Flanders*, durst not venture out; of which the Ambassador of *Spain* has made great Complaints to the States: Who answer'd, their Admiral was order'd to take every thing coming from *England*.

Seven hundred *English* arriv'd at *Ostend* the 15th of this Month, and receiv'd a Month's Pay as soon as they landed; the rest which are said to be 2000 Men, will find it hard to pass while the Fleet is posted there.

The States of *Holland* are broken up without coming to any Resolution concerning the high Charges some Cities propos'd the Prince of *Orange*; but it came to nothing. The marine Treaty, and the Explanation of the Contraband Merchandize between *Sweden* and this State was agreed upon Yesterday,

herday, and 'tis thought their other Differences will be terminated.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne.

June 21, 1667.

THE Count *de Molina* writes to *Don Roderico* a Banker at *Antwerp*, that he shou'd get Money ready to pay for the Passage of 5000 *English*. That may not be true, but it being certain that 600 are arriv'd at *Ostend*, and the Complaint of *Don Este- van de Gamarre* giving us Reason to believe the Report that's spread of 1500 being embark'd at *Gravesend*, is not without ground; the *English* do not seem to act fairly in that Affair, by assisting his Majesty's Enemies at a time when he is doing all he can to have no more War with them.

The Peace between *England* and the States may be made by liquidating and abolishing all Demands without any Exception. The States will not in anywise comply in the latter Point, the King may depend upon it; and in case the latter shou'd leave the Assembly (which they wou'd readily do if the former do not plainly and simply accept of the Alternative) we may wait for his Commands, as to our Conduct therein. We expect by a Letter from *Monsieur de Ruigny*, that the Earl of *St. Albans* will complain of us. The *English* Ambassadors have much more reason to be pleas'd with our Conduct than to dislike it; and unless we wou'd tell the States Plenipotentiaries we will sign without them, we cou'd not press 'em more than we have done.

We have declar'd in such a manner against the pretended Explanations of the Articles of the Treaty of 1662, and have told the *English* Ambassadors so positively that shou'd not retard the Treaty, if they plainly and simply accepted the Alternative that we

we wonder to find them embarrass'd. We have done the same Thing as to the Demand of the *Acades*, so that their Complaints, Sir, are without Foundation, and make us doubt of their Sincerity or Experience; for what they are so much puzzled about might be easily accommodated in an Hour's Time.

MEMORIAL *From the King to the Sieurs d'Estrades and Courtin, his Majesty's Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaries in Holland. Done at the Camp at Remiquy, the Last of July, 1667.*

THE King by the said Ambassadors last Letters, perceiv'd that the Conclusion of the Treaty of Peace between *England* and *Holland* is in Suspence till the King of *Great Britain's* Ambassadors receive new Orders by the Return of the Courier they have dispatch'd to their Master; by which they may give over the Instances they have made pursuant to their Instructions, for Damages to be allow'd the concern'd in the two Ships the *Bonaventure* and *Good Hope*. And his Majesty having reason to promise himself that this Obstacle wou'd be remov'd after the Choice the King of *England* had made of the Alternative, thought fit to defer writing to the said Count *d'Estrades* and *Courtin*, till he heard from them, after the Return of the Courier to *Breda* from *England*.

In the mean time, the *Sieur de Ruigny* having receiv'd Letters from the Chancellor of *England* of the 15th. of *June*, in which he complains of the Conduct of the *Sieurs d'Estrades* and *Courtin*, for that they wou'd not undertake to second the Claim

' Claim of the the two Ships, and for assuring the
 ' Mediators and the *Dutch*, that the Difficulty was
 ' destroy'd by the Acceptation of the Alternative,
 ' and that the Earl of *St. Albans* had not disagreed
 ' to it when 'twas mention'd to him, at his Arrival
 ' at *Paris*; which Letters the said *Sieur de Ruwiguy*
 ' address'd to the *Sieur de Lionne*, Secretary of State,
 ' with the Answer he wrote the said Chancellor;
 ' a Copy of which is hereto annex'd with the Chan-
 ' cellor's Letter, to serve for Instructions to the said
 ' Ambassadors.

' At the same time this Pacquet was receiv'd,
 ' the Earl of *St. Albans* came to the Camp at *Tour-*
 ' *ney*, taking hold of the Opportunity of a Convoy
 ' from *Arras* to the Army.

' The King gave him Audience on the Spot,
 ' when he represented to his Majesty the Occasion
 ' of his Journey contain'd in the Chancellor of
 ' *England's* Letter, and the Surprize the King his
 ' Master was in that the *Sieurs d'Esstrades* and *Cour-*
 ' *tin* had refus'd his Ambassadors at *Breda* their
 ' Offices for obtaining the Demand of the two
 ' Ships. His Majesty having referr'd him to
 ' the *Sieur le Tellier*, in the Absence of the *Sieur de*
 ' *Lionne*, he had a long Conference with him on
 ' that Subject.

' The said Earl of *St. Albans* complain'd that the
 ' said Ambassadors had not only refus'd their good
 ' Offices in favour of *England*, for Satisfaction for
 ' the two Ships, but had assur'd the Mediators and
 ' the *Dutch*, the Earl of *St. Albans* had not disagreed,
 ' but that the Acceptation of the Alternative had
 ' destroy'd that Demand, which he exaggerated ve-
 ' ry much, as a Behaviour contrary to good Faith,
 ' and the Assurances given on the Part of the King
 ' in *England*, that the Treaty of 1662 shou'd be
 ' executed. The Foundation of the Complaint was,
 ' in a word, that when the Earl of *St. Albans* ex-
 ' plain'd himself to Monsieur *de Lionne*, concerning
 ' the

the Power he had to treat of a Peace; he gave him to understand distinctly 'twas on condition that Part of the Isle of *St. Christophers*, taken by the King's Arms in this War, shou'd be restor'd, and the Treaty of 1662, be executed. In which Treaty the Restitution of the Isle of *Polemon* is compriz'd; and Satisfaction for the two Ships; that the said *Sieur de Lionne* promis'd him positively the Execution of the said Treaty, and on this Foot the King sent his Ambassadors to *Breda*, to treat of a Peace; for the Conclusion of which 'twas always promis'd, that his Subjects shou'd be satisfy'd for the Damages they had suffer'd by the taking the said two Ships.

The said Earl of *St. Albans* acknowledg'd the King, his Master, yielded up the Point of the Restitution of *Polemon*, in Complacency to the King, but not that of the two Ships, and if his Majesty's Ambassadors did not second the Demand of the *English* in it, they wou'd not keep the Promise made by the *Sieur de Lionne*, for the Execution of the Treaty of 1662. He added, The King his Master consider'd in this not so much the Interest of his Subjects, whom he had the Means to content otherwise, as his Honour, which is very much touch'd by so notorious a Breach of Promise.

Further, He cou'd not but confess, the Council of *England* held this Matter to be of such Consequence for the Reputation of the Nation, that nothing wou'd be advanc'd at the Treaty of *Breda*, till Provision was made to indemnify those that were interested in the said two Ships.

The said *Sieur le Tellier* answer'd the Earl of *St. Albans* in the most civil terms he cou'd use, that the King was never worse than his Word, and wou'd never mind such a Reproach; that his Majesty had given an effectual Proof of it in the present War, into which he enter'd with the *Dutch* against his own Interest and Inclination to fulfil

' fulfil his Engagement by the Treaty with them
 ' at a Time when it cou'd not be foreseen that the
 ' good Correspondence which appear'd between
 ' *England* and *Holland* wou'd receive any Alteration.
 ' He desir'd him to consider with what Generosity
 ' the King had consented to the Restitution of the
 ' Isle of *St. Christophers* which lawfully belong'd to
 ' him, to demonstrate to the King of *England* what
 ' an Esteem he had for his Friendship; and to reflect
 ' whether his Majesty cou'd be suspected to be wil-
 ' ling to break his Word to procure Advantages for
 ' the *Dutch*, when he voluntarily quitted his own,
 ' and all in Complacency to the King of *Great Bri-*
 ' *tain*. The said *Sieur le Tellier* agreed that the said
 ' *Sieur de Lionne*, in answer to the said Earl of
 ' *St. Albans's* Proposal, did Promise the Treaty of
 ' 1662, shou'd be executed, but that no Body cou'd
 ' foresee that the Isle of *Paleron* wou'd be compriz'd
 ' in it, nor the said two Ships; In as much as those
 ' two Articles being placed before by *England*, as
 ' Causes and Pretexts of the War, and the King
 ' of *Great Britain* having chosen to leave all Things
 ' in the State they were found, it cou'd not be
 ' imagin'd those two Claims were reserv'd by the
 ' Alternative; and if the said Earl of *St. Albans* had
 ' been of that Opinion, he shou'd have explain'd
 ' himself particularly, as he did about *St. Christo-*
 ' *phers*. The Point of *Paleron*, and the two Ships be-
 ' ing no more difficult than what concerns *St. Chri-*
 ' *stophers*, by the Execution of the Alternative.

' And tho' the King of *England* had a Right to
 ' prosecute the Affair of Satisfaction for the said
 ' two Ships, he cou'd not pretend to any Thing
 ' else, but to say that the Process which was be-
 ' gun before the Admiralty of *Amsterdam* shou'd be
 ' proceeded with according to the Terms of the said
 ' Treaty, which wou'd not be much for the Ad-
 ' vantage of his Subjects, being to be judg'd by the
 ' Parties concern'd.

' The

' The *Sieur le Tellier* added, that the King was too wise to neglect the Negotiation of the Peace for so small a Matter.

' That the Ambassadors good Offices wou'd be fruitless, and might furnish the *Sieur de Wit* with Pretexs to get the War continu'd, to have the Fleet sent out, and to press the King to join his with the States, pursuant to the Treaty, and what was concerted in the Spring.

' That the King hop'd all these Considerations wou'd prevail with the King of *Great Britain* not to insist on the Claim for the two Ships, and by his Wisdom to contribute to give no Occasion for the States Fleet to put to Sea, and to the Enemies that may on both Sides change the Face of Affairs, and put off the Conclusion of the Peace; and the said Earl of *St. Albans* repeating the same Things he had said, and like Answers being still made him; the said Earl added, he wou'd willingly make a Proposal to help to end this Affair, provided he was not made the Author of it; for fear of bringing him into Trouble in *England*; and Secrecy being promis'd him, he propos'd that the Peace shou'd be push'd on at *Breda* to a Conclusion. And that the King's Ambassadors jointly with those of *England*, shou'd see what was fitting to be allow'd the interested for Satisfaction for the two Ships, and the King pay one half, and the King's, his Master, the other. The *Sieur le Tellier* rejected this Offer as injurious to the King; representing 'twas sufficient the King was willing to part with what belong'd to him without charging himself with Debts his Allies did not owe. He afterwards by way of Discourse ask'd that said Count, What might be the Value of the said two Ships? He answer'd the interested made it amount to 100000 Pound Sterling, but that the *Sieur Courtin* was certain 100000 *Livres French Money* wou'd fairly Discharge it. The

' The said Count happen'd to say in the Conference, That this Difficulty did not come from the King, his Master; that he was not capable of going back from what had been concerted, nor retarding the Peace for so small a Matter, nor of taking any Advantage of the Engagement into which the King is enter'd by his Induction; and that there must be something else that sets the Chancellor on in this Business. Thus the said *Sieur le Tellier* and he parted, and having given his Majesty an Account of what had pass'd, he was order'd to answer the said Count, That the King cou'd not alter the Instructions he had given his Ambassadors touching the two Ships, seeing the Instances of those Ministers had not succeeded; but wou'd, if continu'd, excite the *Hollanders* to break off the Treaty and continue the War, to cause their Fleet to put to Sea, and press his Majesty to join his with theirs, pursuant to the Treaty; But the Peace being so considerable a Blessing to all the World, If the King of *England* wou'd consent to the Conclusion of it, without making any further mention of the said two Ships, the said *le Tellier* wou'd in his own Name pay 50000 Livres to the Concern'd towards their Satisfaction, which was told him as a great Secret, and is to be disown'd if any one whatsoever be told of it.

' The said *Sieur le Tellier* going from the King met the said Earl of *St. Albans*, to whom he declar'd what's before mention'd; adding in his own Name the Offer of 50000 Livres, and they parted without coming to any Conclusion in it.

' The next day the 27th instant, the said Earl came to the said *Sieur de Tellier*, and after having signify'd how sorry he was no Expedient cou'd be found to get over the Difficulty of the said two Ships: He gave him the Paper sent herewith, containing that Instance made to the King of *England* concerning them, and propos'd the return-

‘ returning an Answer in the Form of other Writing, of which the said *Sieur le Tellier* having also inform’d his Majesty, he agreed the Answer shou’d be in the Terms ’tis couch’d in, and ’twas deliver’d to the said Earl gratis; resolving at the same Time the said Ambassadors shou’d make light Instances with the *Dutch*, in favour of the Interested in the said two Ships.

‘ That if these Instances are also without Success, the said Ambassadors shall treat with those of *England* separately from the *Dutch*, to consult about Satisfaction for the said Interested in the said two Ships; and if it shou’d amount to 100000 Livres, shall Promise the King will pay 50000 Livres *French Money*, without exceeding that Sum in any wise whatsoever.

‘ But without breaking off the Negotiations of Peace under Colour of the said Satisfaction to be arbitrated, they shall press the said Ambassadors of *England* to proceed to the Conclusion of the said Treaty, as is contain’d in the Answer given the said Earl of *St. Albans*.

‘ That furthermore, If the *Dutch* wou’d not execute the Treaty made in 1662, between them and *England*, except in what relates to *Polemon*, and the said two Ships, it not being a Matter to be handled in this Treaty; the said Ambassadors shall efficaciously employ their good Offices, and vigorously oppose the *Dutch*, if they offer to make any Alterations in it.

From the Count d'Estrades to the King.

June 30, 1667.

MOns. *Fleming* the *Swedish* Ambassador made his Publick Entry here the 25th of this Month, with a pretty Splendid Equipage: When

he alighted out of his Coach, we went to demand Audience of him, that the *English* Ambassadors might not be beforehand with us, and then he had no Pretence not to pay us the first Visit: He return'd us abundance of Thanks, and desir'd us not to be at the Trouble to come to his House, saying, The Ceremony of his Entry related only to the United Provinces, and 'twas not necessary to renew it between us, since we had already own'd his Quality of Mediator, and had permitted him to exercise the Function. The *English* Ambassadors sent to him the next day to demand Audience; He return'd them the same Answer, and at the same Time came himself to thank us, and visited us one after the other at our Houses. He then went to the *English* Ambassadors, and found them returning from his House. Thus, Sir, we have receiv'd the first Honours, and have reason to be pleas'd with the Proceeding of this Ambassador.

As to the Negotiation, it hangs where it did; Mr. *Coventry* told us the 24th in the Evening, that he and his Colleague had receiv'd Orders not to yield up the Reservation of Claims. We press'd them very much that they might be abolish'd, adding, That if he and his Colleague wou'd reduce them to that of the two Ships, we wou'd do our utmost to oblige the States not to be so obstinate in this Affair. He reply'd, That except what related to the Restitution of the Island of *Paleron*, they cou'd alter nothing in the Treaty of 1662, which puts us out of a Condition to advance the Peace, to which perhaps we might bring them, if the Conclusion of it depended only on that. But as long as the *English* stick at reserving the Demands arising since the 1st of *January* 1659, 'tis impossible to get the States to come near 'em; and your Majesty will perhaps own your self 'twou'd be a little hard to require 'em to treat with such Inequality. They have resolv'd to desire your Majesty not to surrender to the King

of

of Great Britain the Isles of *Tobago* and *St. Eustachia*; and Monsieur *van Beuningen* is order'd to make Instances with us on their Part. We have satisfy'd them thereon by the Communication of our Project, containing in exprefs Terms that your Majesty will surrender the Isles which were possess'd by your Arms, and belong'd to the *English* before they enter'd into the War with the States, which even in the Opinion of their Plenipotentiaries, excludes those of *Tobago* and *St. Eustachia*; which were taken from them three Years ago; but they are all alarm'd at Monsieur *Fleming's* telling them, the *English* Ambassadors pretend to the Restitution of those Isles; As to which however they have signify'd to us, they wou'd not insist upon it.

The Advice we have from the *Hague* confirms the Information we had had, that Monsieur *de Wit* not being able to carry the Election of one *Wurtz*, who serv'd under the late King of *Sweden*, to be Lieutenant General of the States Army, has got the Assembly to break up, that he may concert his Measures better against the next. In the mean time, we are assur'd the said *de Wit* will meet with great Oppositions, and that the greatest Part of the Cities demand the Prince of *Orange* for their General; and see plainly the *Sieur de Wit's* opposing it hitherto under Colour of the Prince's near Relation to the King of *England*, will not now pass; the said Prince behaving himself extreamly well, and on all Occasions shewing the Cities and People he has no Interest but that of the State, and will be govern'd by the Instructions of the Tutors the State has appointed him; which makes the most Clear-sighted perceive the *Sieur de Wit* acts out of Passion and Interest against the said Prince of *Orange*, and makes use of the Opposition the *English* have given to the passing the Alternative to hinder the Prince's Re-establishment: This Affair being to be debated at the next Meeting of the States, 'tis very important

tant we shou'd receive your Majesty's Orders for our Conduct in it; and we ought to tell them that if it appear to you to be for your Interest to oppose the Election of the Prince, and join with the *Sieur de Wit*, as to that we are afraid if the Times shou'd change, it may be difficult to engage him in the Interest of *France*: Whereas if we let both Parties act without meddling on either Side, 'tis not likely that of the *Sieur de Wit* will be able to hinder the Prince's being elected General.

We believe also the said Prince may be brought into Engagements with your Majesty, and to give you Assurances that he will be always for your Majesty's Interests as long as your Alliance with the State subsists; and *I d'Estrades* can assure your Majesty, that the Prince of *Orange* having so much Wit and Ambition as he has, and his prevailing Passion being War, he cannot for his own Interests have any other Thoughts but to engage with your Majesty, which we will cultivate with the greatest Precaution and Security, when your Majesty shall give us your Orders.

We observe well that the *Sieur de Wit*, to govern alone, will still oppose the Prince's Advantages, and make use of your Majesty's Name to get the Cities to exclude him, as it has happen'd several Times since the War began; and we can not see what Interest your Majesty can have in continuing to favour him therein, since 'tis certain the *Sieur de Wit* remaining in credit, all his Endeavours will be to continue the War with *England* for his own Advantage, he having the sole Direction of the Fleet and Expences, into which the Rest out of Negligence or Laziness don't look; so that your Majesty will receive no Benefit by supporting him, nor even any hope to oblige him, by this Direction, to get the States to join their Arms with yours against *Spain*; and we believe if the Prince of *Orange* was re-establish'd, having already five Provinces for him, he
wou'd

wou'd soon acquire Friends in those of *Holland* and *Utrecht*, and have Interest enough to make the States resolve to join with *France* against *Spain*. 'Tis for his own Advantage, in as much as he can never be so much consider'd as his Ancestors were, unless the States have a Land Army. Things of this Nature are not done at once, there must be Time to manage them: But we observe here the Disposition of them, that your Majesty having explain'd your Sentiments of 'em to us, as to what will be most for your Service, we may with Care labour to accomplish it. Your Majesty will see by the States Demand of your Fire ships, that they have still a Design to burn some Ships that are in the Ports of *England*. I have heard Admiral *de Ruyter* say formerly, that if the *English* shou'd retire to the *Isle of Wight*, and the Wind were fair for him, he wou'd endeavour to burn them; and he may very well have the same Design now.

It has been resolv'd, That the States Fleet shall remain in the River of *Thames* to hinder the Trade of the City of *London*: A Squadron of 20 Ships are to Cruize off the Coasts of *Scotland*.

And if your Majesty approve of the *Sieur de Wit's* Proposal to have a good Squadron to cruize at the Entrance in of the Channel, *England* will be invested on all Sides: And the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* give Assurances that their Master will with his Fleet secure the Passage towards *Norway*; and thus the *English* Commerce will be entirely broken. But your Majesty knowing what is for your Interests in all Cases better than we, we only represent to you the State of Affairs.

The Execution of the Marine Treaty between *Sweden* and this State has been retarded on account of some Umbrage of the States at the March of the *Swedes*, which gave 'em Cause to believe they wou'd attempt something against their Frontiers; but the Count *de Dhona* perceiving it, demanded

Publick Audience, and assur'd the States he had Orders from the King, his Master, to give them his Royal Word that he had no Design to attempt any Thing against them; but on the contrary, to enter into a good and sincere Amity with them, upon which Commissioners were appointed to renew the Treaty: And we are oblig'd to repeat to your Majesty what we have already written you, that the *Rhinegrave*, the Father, has on all Occasions serv'd your Majesty with great Affection, that he continues to do so, and has omitted nothing to perswade his Son not to enter into the Service of the *Spaniards*, and is very much troubled at his doing it.

Monsieur van Beuningen has written the States he did not by the last Audience he had of your Majesty believe you wou'd join your Fleet with the States, as long as the Negotiation lasted at *Breda*.

From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
June 30, 1667.

WE just now left the Ambassadors of *England*, and the Visit we paid them gave us Occasion to take Pen in Hand again before the Departure of the Courier.

They agree to the Truth of the Relation that has been sent the States; They talk wisely of what's past, but 'tis easy to see they are mightily concern'd, and by what we can judge, the Misfortune that has happen'd to 'em will make 'em more tractable for the Future.

They have undertaken to dispatch away one of their Men to *London* to day, to endeavour to get Leave to agree to the following Articles, and have engag'd whatever Orders they receive, not to depart till the return of the Courier. The Articles are,

That the Process for the Two Ships, the Bonaventure and Good Hope, shall be prosecuted before the Magistrates of Amsterdam.

That all Sorts of Claims shall be Abolish'd on both Sides without any Reserve.

That the Treaty of 1662, shall be executed according to its Form and Tenour, except in the Points derogating from it, by the abovementioned Articles.

That each Party shall remain in Possession of the Places it possess before the First of April last.

They demanded of us, Whether in Case the King their Master, accepted of these Articles, and the States wou'd not, your Majesty wou'd treat without 'em? We reply'd, we cou'd not tell what your Majesty wou'd do; but must tell them, you understood the Demand for the two Ships shou'd be abolish'd as well as the rest; but if they reduc'd it to that only, we wou'd in expectation of your Majesty's Orders, use all our interest with the States to bring them to yield to the Composition of the smaller, as contain'd in the Second Article. In the mean time, that we wou'd go immediately and give you an account of what had pass between us.

By all these Ambassadors said, we perceiv'd they have a Mind to make a Peace, and think 'tis necessary for their State, which makes us hope they will receive Powers to agree to the abovemention'd Articles.

If 'tis so, your Majesty will be pleas'd to order us what we shall do; and if we durst take the Liberty to tell you our Sentiments, it seems to us if you have a Design to oblige the King of Great Britain, your Majesty may give him a great Proof of your Friendship, by causing it to be powerfully represented to the States; and representing it your self to Mr. van Beuningen, 'tis your Opinion they ought to be satisfy'd with these two Conditions, since the Alternative is accepted, reserving only the Claim of the two Ships, about which they will obtain what

they pretended to, and what serv'd for a Pretext for the War.

We foresee Monsieur *de Wit* will be hardly brought to yield in this Point; but if the Peace depended once on this Condition only, Monsieur *de Beuvering* has let us know he does not think it shou'd break it off; and if your Majesty commands me *d'Estrades* to speak to the Deputies of the Cities, and even to go and see what's the Opinion of the States-General in it; all the Provinces which are for the Peace wou'd understand where it hangs.

In fine, Sir, This is the Conjunction in which your Majesty may take, if we dare so say, your Resolution, on Foundations which seem more certain than any we have yet had: For we came close to the Point with the *English* Ambassadors. They are convinc'd, and the Time to convince their Master is probably come. He will hearken to Reason tho' a little too late, if he accepts the Articles we have mention'd.

We did not think fit to trust our Thoughts of the States Demand of your Majesty's Fire-ships, in the Letter we gave their Courier. But we take the Liberty to represent them here, and that is, that if you don't agree to what they desire, under Colour you have not Fire-ships for your Fleet, it may hinder some new Enterprize. The States have done enough to render the *English* discreet. Your Majesty has no Part in it, and will judge better than we can, whether 'tis for your Interest to make use of your Forces to compleat the Ruin of the King of *Great Britain*, when he's dispos'd to almost whatever is requir'd of him.

The Ambassadors of *England* are by what we have said to 'em so far convinc'd, that your Majesty can no longer defer the Departure of your Fleet from *Brest*, that they seem not to be in any doubt of Monsieur *de Beaufort's* being put to Sea; and they are satisfy'd your Majesty has so long delay'd sending him
your

your Orders with all reasonable Regards to the King of *Great Britain's* Interests, to give him an Opportunity to conclude the Peace. Upon which we believe, if your Majesty, refusing your Fire-ships to the States thro' this Consideration that you are about to send it to cruize at the Mouth of the Channel as they desire, shou'd order Monsieur *de Beaufort* to sail, your Majesty wou'd content your Allies, avoid the Occasion of doing the *English* a greater Mischief, and reduce 'em however by this Step to a greater Necessity of finishing their Affairs here. Experience has shewn us that the Misfortune which has happen'd to 'em, has already render'd 'em more tractable, which gives us reason to believe they will become wise at last, and determine to take good Measures.

If your Majesty should also think fit to declare to the Count of *St. Albans*, that you will use your Authority with the States, to oblige them to accept of the Articles mention'd in the beginning of this Letter; but if they persisted in the Resolution not to accommodate Matters, unless the Pretension even for the two Ships before-nam'd be abolish'd, as well as the Rest. Your Majesty desires the King of *Great Britain* to comply in that Point, and send Orders to his Ambassadors to disengage him honourably from his Obligation to continue the War, we believe it might facilitate the Success of our Negotiation; but in case we cannot get the States to consent to the Expedient by which they will remain Masters and Judges of that Claim.

From the Count d'Estades to Monsf. de Lionne.

June 30, 1667.

IF the Marquis de *Castel Rodrigo* will not suffer our Letters to pass, 'twill be necessary you get an Order for some small Boat to bring them for the

the future. There are little Frigats at *Calais* and *Dunkirk* that wou'd serve for this Purpose.

But if the *English* Ambassadors, as they give out, have receiv'd Orders to leave this Place, this Caution will be needless, and as I *Courtin* shall have no more Opportunity to render his Majesty any Service here, I humbly entreat you to let me know whether in that case he will not permit me to Repass the Sea.

What has happen'd in *England* may have very dangerous Consequences for the King of *Great Britain*; and his People and the Parliament, will perhaps be at last scandaliz'd, that after the preceding Year, not only no Fleets were equipp'd, but that there was such a Neglect thro' a too great Contempt of the Enemy as to expose the *English* Nation to the Contempt of those that fear'd her before. To prevent this Extremity, the wisest Way wou'd doubtless be to make a Peace and not continue a War, which *England* can no longer carry on without losing her Reputation. We wish the King of *England* wou'd in these Matters follow his own Opinion rather than the Counsels which proceed from Vanity and Spite in most of those who have the Honour to be about him: And we wish his Ambassadors had not explain'd themselves so openly here on their own Heads; for if they stay after what they have said 'twill be look'd on as Weakness, and discover too much the need they stand in of a Peace: In case it cannot be done, His Majesty will at least have the Advantage to have shewn his Allies he had no Intention, as Monsieur *Isola* wou'd intimate to them by his Libels, to keep them at War with his Neighbours. His Moderation has appear'd in the Project we communicated to them; and the King of *Great Britain*, cannot doubt but the King is very well dispos'd to disengage him from the Difficulties he is in, and in which he wou'd run himself farther than ever, since we have past over all these

Forma-

Formalities Ambassadors are wont to observe in the first Steps, to shew 'tis the Way by which they may make a Peace in 24 Hours: and after having given 'em notice of what wou'd happen, and foretold this Campaign wou'd bring some Disgrace to his *Britannick* Majesty's Arms; we for above a Month offer'd to hinder the States Fleet going out, if they wou'd consent to the Extinction of all Demands. This might be said to be just and reasonable, and we wou'd not despair of managing Matters so that the Affair of the two Ships may be adjudg'd by the Magistrates of *Amsterdam*.

An infinite Number of People from all the Provinces came hither out of Curiosity to see the Assembly. And the *English* and *Swedes* having begun to dine in Publick, and to give Wine and Sweetmeats to such as came to them, we have been oblig'd to do the same. The former have 10800 Livres a Month to spend, and the latter don't put their Hands into their Purses, but have their Expenses entirely born. We dare not be importunate with his Majesty for our Interests: But however, Sir, we can hardly be at the necessary Charge of these extraordinary Entertainments, and we entreat you so to order it, if possible, that his Majesty may be pleas'd to order us to be paid the three Months that are due to us, and to regulate our Allowances as has been always procur'd on the like Occasions. You know what was done at *Munster* and *Frankfort*; and you will easily imagin we are not rich enough our selves to live here suitable to the Dignity of our Character, unless his Majesty thinks fit to assist us.

MEMORIAL *From the King for the Sieurs d'Estrades and Courtin. Done at the Camp before Doway, July 4, 1667.*

THE *Sieur van Beuningen* having continually and earnestly insisted on obliging His Majesty, plainly to tell the States, or at least the *Sieur de Wit*, on what Conditions an Accommodation may be made between him and the *Spaniards* concerning the Queen's Rights; thereon representing to his Majesty, that he dare Answer 'twould depend on him, by agreeing on the said Conditions with his Masters, to engage their State for ever inseparably in his Interests; and that provided they may be certain his Majesty has no Intentions to make an entire Conquest of the *Netherlands*, but be contented with some Parcels of it, which by their too great Vicinity may not give the States any just Occasion of Umbrage; they wou'd first do their Endeavours with the *Spaniards*, by all the most efficacious Means imaginable, to get them to comply with his Majesty on the same Terms as shall be agreed on between them; and in case of refusal on the Part of the *Spaniards*, the States will join with his Majesty to force 'em to do it, by putting in Execution the Obligation contracted by the States by the Treaty of 1662, in its full Extent to guarant all the Rights of his said Majesty; The said *van Beuningen* off'ring further to go himself to *Holland* on purpose, to bring his Masters to consent to what has been mention'd.

All the Letters the said *van Beuningen* has receiv'd lately from the *Sieur de Wit*, confirm the same; that is, that it depends only on the King, by making use of the propos'd Expedient to engage the States absolutely and for ever in his Interests; and

and tho' there are a great many powerful Reasons to dissuade his Majesty from what they press him upon, as long as the *Spaniards* have not hitherto been dispos'd to yield up any thing to him voluntarily, in order to bring Matters to an Issue by the Way of Accommodation, having not yet sent any Person with a Power in due form to treat ; and that besides, the said *van Beuningen* has no Power from his Masters to say and offer what he has said and offer'd ; and that the Declaration his Majesty shall make, will however oblige and bind him nevertheless, after having consider'd well of it, and being desirous to ease the Minds of the Princes and Potentates, who by the Augmentation of his Power may conceive Umbrage well or ill grounded ; he has at last resolv'd plainly to declare to the said *Sieur de Wit* on what Condition he may be contented, so as to give up the Rest of his Demands touching the Queen's Rights.

His Majesty therefore desires the Count d'*Estades* may make a Tour to the *Hague*, and acquaint the said *de Wit*, on his Part as the greatest Secret, that for all the Rights sals to the Queen by the Death of the King her Father, he will be contented with the Provinces and Places hereafter nam'd. To wit, the *French County*, the Dutchy of *Luxemburgh*, *Cambray*, *Cambresis*, *Aire*, *St. Omer*, *Bergues*, *Charleroy*, *Tournay*, and *Douay*, with the Countries and Places thereto belonging ; on Condition the said *de Wit* will within three Months ensuing procure his Majesty a Resolution from the States in good Form, by which they oblige themselves to do their utmost Endeavours with the Queen of *Spain*, to get her to yield up the said Countries, Provinces, and Places in Fee for, and instead of the Rights sals to the Queen ; and in case the said Queen of *Spain* refuses him that Satisfaction three Months after the Date of the said Resolution, the States shall join their Arms with his against the *Spaniards*,

Spaniards, to assert the Queen's Right by virtue of the Treaty of 1662; and if it happens that the said *de Wit* do not procure the said Resolution of the States, within the said three Months ensuing, to get him Satisfaction at the Instances of the States; His Majesty in such case shall be discharg'd from his Engagement, and his Demands remain in the same State as before.

His Majesty consents that the Count *d'Esstrades* shall declare to the said *Sieur de Wit*, that if the Queen of *Spain* agrees to this Treaty, he will restore the other Places he shall have conquer'd by Arms during its Negotiation.

His said Majesty says nothing as to the Form to be observ'd for the Term of the Treaty, in case the *Spaniards* comply with what he demands for his Satisfaction, being dispos'd to consent to any Thing that shall be thought reasonable; provided it do's not prejudice the Rights that may belong to the Queen hereafter, if the King of *Spain* shou'd die without Lawful Issue.

The *Sieur d'Esstrades* will have a fair Opportunity to shew the *Sieur de Wit* by this Proceeding, his Majesty's Moderation, considering the Greatness and Justice of his Pretensions; as also, that His Majesty in these Demands has been mindful, not to make any that might give the States the least Occasion of Jealousy. If the said *de Wit* shou'd desire the Count *d'Esstrades* to give him what he says by Word of Mouth in Writing, he must excuse himself; for that the only time to do that, will be when the said *De Wit* has procur'd the abovemention'd Resolution of the States for his Majesty. Done at the Camp before *Doway*.

Sign'd,

L O U I S.

Lower,

De LIONNE.

From

From Mons. le Tellier to the Count d'Estrades.
July 4, 1667.

YOUR three Dispatches of the 9th, 16th and 21st of the last Month came to hand, which we did not Answer, because they are not yet decipher'd. You will see by the Copy of the Earl of St. Albans's Letter to Mr. le Tellier, Things are alter'd since the King's last Memorial, and that the *English* give up the Demand for the two Ships; which being done, 'twill be easy to bring Matters to a speedy Conclusion; in which we don't doubt you'll act with your wonted Prudence and Capacity, without being at any Trouble about the Contents of the said Memorial.

Sign'd,

Le TELLIER.

MEMORIAL *Presented to the most Christian King by the Earl of St. Albans.*

THE King of Great Britain having continually demanded the Observation of the Treaty of 1662 with the *Dutch* for one Condition, insists on it still.

And now desires his Most Christian Majesty to let his Ambassadors at *Breda* know, that they understood it otherwise by a Mistake, and to order them at the same Time to use their Instances to procure him their Consent, in that he ought to expect and was promis'd it, particularly in the Affair of the two Ships. And since the Delay of the Treaty of *Breda* may occasion great Inconveniencies,

niencies, his most Christian Majesty is desir'd also to give Orders, that his *Britannick* Majesty may be inform'd as soon as possible, what he is to expect in so important an Affair, in which he thinks he cannot make any further Compliance.

The King's Answer to the said Memorial. •

HIS Majesty will let his Ambassadors at *Breda* know, that the King of *Great Britain* having by the Earl of *St. Albans* acquainted him, he never intended to give up his Demand against the *Dutch* for the two Ships, *Bonadventure* and *Good Hope*, and that he always promis'd himself Satisfaction wou'd be giv'n his Subjects concern'd in the said Ships, for the Loss they sustain'd by their being taken, in the Treaty of Peace now on foot at *Breda*; orders them to make use of their Instances vigorously, to procure the King of *England* the content he desires in it.

But since his Majesty, for the Reasons giv'n the Earl of *St. Albans* at large, has cause to doubt of the Success of his said Ambassadors good Offices; and considering besides, that so great an Affair as that of the Peace, ought not to be retarded for a Business of so small Consideration as that of the two Ships; his Majesty thinks the Difference ought to be accommodated by some Expedient, to the execution of which he will use his utmost endeavours on the Proposals which may be made him; nevertheless the Conclusion of the said Treaty of Peace may not under this Pretext, be in any wise differ'd; and because the King of *Great Britain* apprehends, that by giving us his Demands for the said Ships, it may furnish the *Dutch* with a Pretence to make a Difficulty

faculty of observing the rest of the Treaty of 1662. His Majesty declares he will effectually use his endeavours with the *Dutch*, that the said Treaty, excepting *Polemon* and the said two Ships, be entirely executed, and will immediately give his Ambassadors the necessary Orders to that effect.

*From Monsf. de Lionne to the Count d'Estrades.
From the Camp before Doway, July 6, 1667.*

Whatever I may say to you before-hand, must be look't upon as my particular Thoughts only, which you may be pleas'd to consider as such only, without having any deference for them, if I any way differ from yours, who see Things near at Hand. I can't think the last Courier the Ambassadors of *England* dispatch'd to *London*, will not bring back the Peace, unless the whole Council there are out of their Senses. The *English* are no longer in a Condition to act out of Spite and Revenge, after the irreparable Blow they have receiv'd in the *Thames*, which perhaps will have worse Consequences of the same kind, if the *Dutch* can suddenly have other Fireships, either those they are preparing themselves, or those they demand of us; Monsieur *Van Beuningen* yesterday sent a Courier to the King, to make Instances for them.

I heartily wish the Council of *England* were as reasonable, as the King of *Great-Britain's* Ambassador's seem'd to be, when they own'd the King our Master having forbore till now, sending Orders to the Duke of *Beaufort* to sail, had had all the regard he cou'd reasonably have, to give their Master time to conclude the Peace. But I'm sorry to hear that they don't talk so at *London*, and that the *Spanish* Ambassador is told every Day, that *France*

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has basely bubbled them. I don't wonder at it, because when one has committed Faults, 'tis natural rather to lay them at others Doors, than incline to place 'em at our own. Into such Inconveniences has the Interest of private Persons brought 'em; and if Mr. *Coventry* and others had not a share in the pretended Satisfaction for the Two Ships, the Peace had been made, and the best Ships in *England* had not been burnt.

Monsieur *Goe*, Resident of *Denmark*, came to me to tell me the *English* made some Difficulty of treating with them upon equal Conditions about the Confiscations since the War; and that the King his Master offers either to restore on both Sides, what has been confiscated, or to keep all; which seems to me to be very reasonable; and I don't see how we can abandon the *Danis* in so just a Demand, and the more, because that the three several Treaties ought in effect to make but one; and that the Peace is concluded on this Foundation, of leaving all things in the State they shall be found. I have written my Opinion to the King, concerning the Comprehension of other Princes in the Treaty of Peace, which is, that his Majesty should in no wise allow, that the King of *England* shou'd name the House of *Austria* in it, and that the best Expedient to come off of this, is to do as was done at the Treaty of *Munster*.

I can't think but that the Courier dispatch'd to *England*, will bring back a Power to the Ambassadors, to depart from the Demand of Satisfaction for the Ships *Bonaventure* and *Good-Hope*, as well as the rest, since the first of *Jan.* 1659. but in case I am out in my Judgment, if the *English* shou'd give up all their Demands, and desire only for their Honour, that the Affair of the two Ships shou'd be referr'd to the Magistrates of *Amsterdam*, methinks you shou'd powerfully represent to the Deputies of the States of *Holland*, and your Friends in the Cities,

ties, that such a Punctilio shou'd not stop the Peace a Minute, and the rather, because they have what they have always offer'd, and that 'twill be in their Power by the Magistrates of *Amsterdam*, to determine the Affair as they please. Since the above-written, one of my Couriers is return'd from Court, and has brought me a Dispatch from the King; upon which I drew up his Majesty's Memorial, which is herewith sent you, and in my Opinion, you will find it of great Importance. We shall soon see whether Monsieur *van Beuningen* has said true, what he told us; that provided the Lords the States of *Holland* cou'd be sure his Majesty did not intend to swallow all, it depended only on him to engage them inseparably in his Interests.

I am to tell you, but if you please, in the greatest Secrecy, for I have giv'n my Word you shall never say any thing of it to Monsieur *de Wit*; that having lately prest Monsieur *van Beuningen* to tell me freely, what he thought just the *Spaniards* shou'd yield up to the King for his Demands; after much ado he told me, that he thought they ought to give his Majesty the Dutchy of *Luxemburgh*, *Cambrai*, and the *Cambresis*, *Aire* and *St. Omer*, to which the King only added the *Franche Comte*, a Country that's of no use but a Charge to the *Spaniards*, *Charleroi*, *Tournai* and *Douai*, which he has already, or as good as has, and *Bergue* because of *Dunkirk*.

I said nothing to Monsieur *van Beuningen* of the Detail of this Affair, because his Majesty forgot to write me how I shou'd carry myself to him in it; I only told him, Orders were sent to you to content them for the Advancement of Peace. The King desires you will with all your might second the Negotiations of the *Portugal* Ambassador, especially for the Restauration of *Cachem* and *Camanor*. We have promis'd by the new Treaty so to do, and render the *Portuguese* therein, all the most effi-

caciquous Offices we can ; Besides the Matter is so just, that Monsieur *van Beuningen* cou'd not deny, but that the States proceeding was not very sincere : Nay, you will do the States a piece of Service in it, for I find the *Portuguese* resolv'd to carry Things to the last Extremity, rather than abandon those two Places ; without which they will enter into a terrible War with the *Dutch*, which will cost them nothing but Parchment ; for they are so well posted, that by giving out Commissions to Privateers of all Nations, and *Lisbon* and their other Ports lying convenient for receiving Prizes, no *Dutch* Ship will trade in Safety without strong Convoys, which will cost more than the two Places are worth. *Ferreiro* told me, that representing this formerly to Monsieur *de Wit*, the latter own'd freely, that *Portugal* was by her Situation, in a Condition to make a more cruel and expensive War with them than any other Power could do, and need not fear any hurt from them, or be at much Charge.

I don't mention the Peace with *England*, for I look upon it as concluded, after what has been written to me from Court ; and the Earl of *St. Albans* has confirm'd to me here, that the King of *England* had giv'n up the Demand of Satisfaction for the two Ships, and for this Reason I don't believe the King will grant that of the Fireships.

P O S T S C R I P T.

You will observe the King's Memorial is dated from another Place ; but the Secretaries of State in the King's Absence, always expedite his Orders from the Place where he is.

From

*From the Count d'Estrades to the King,
July 7, 1667.*

AFTER having been assur'd by the States Deputies, that what has pass'd in the *Thames* shou'd not alter their Minds, and that they were ready to come to an Accommodation on the Terms already propos'd; we did our Endeavours with the Ambassadors of *England*, to get them to explain themselves immediately, and to dispose them to it, promis'd them if they agreed, to abolish all Demands reserv'd by the Treaty of 1662, without excepting that of the two Ships; we wou'd sign the Treaty, tho' the States Plenipotentiaries should make a difficulty of following the Advice and Example we intended to set them: we venture nothing in that, since by Mr. *Beverning*, we know Monsieur *de Wit*'s Sentiments; and that the Alternative being accepted plainly and simply, there can be no Pretence remaining with the States, that your Majesty shou'd longer continue the War. On this assurance, the said Ambassador promis'd; on the Second of this Month, to take the States at their Word, and the next Day they desir'd to know of the Ambassadors, Monsieur *de Beverning*, and his Colleagues, whether in case the Alternative was accepted without Restriction, they were dispos'd to sign the Treaty.

The Answer was, that that Foundation being once settled, Precedents shou'd be found out for the other Points: Upon which we thought all that we ought to enter upon the Business, examine the Projects giv'n in by both Sides, and go thro' all the Articles to bring 'em to an Agreement. This is what we are now about, and the chief Points being agreed on, there is ground to hope those that remain will not stop the Treaty. What at present embare

embarrasses us most, is that which seem'd easiest at first, the Interests of the King of *Denmark* : His Plenipotentiaries still insist on the Extinction of a Debt of 120000 Crowns ; and the *English* Ambassadors say, they have not the Power to give away the Money due to the *English* Company settled at *Hamburg* ; that the Money confiscated is not discharged by a Peace, but each Party re-enters into his Right of Process. These Merchants, who have the King of *Denmark*'s Original Obligation, ought also to re-enter in the Right of requiring Payment ; Nay, they add, that in the Treaties between *England* and *Denmark* in *Cromwell*'s Time, and since his Death, this Debt was never mention'd, and that 'tis a new Thing started to take an Advantage of the States Fleet Success in the *Thames*.

To speak plainly, that Demand do's not appear to be just enough to interrupt the Conclusion of a Treaty of Peace ; and after having done what we can to get the Ambassadors of *England* to allow it, we shall endeavour to convince the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, that the King their Master ought on this Occasion to regulate his Conduct by that of the King of *England*, and not for a Trifle oppose the Publick Good ; but such is their Humour, we believe they will not easily comply herein, no more than in the Point of the Manifesto, by which the *English* will not agree to any thing but the usual Clause in all Treaties, containing, that Wrongs and Injuries on both Sides shall be abolish'd, and the Memory of 'em be for the future forgotten.

We have till now, Sir, spoken for the King of *Denmark*, as much as if we were employ'd about his Interests ; but not having had the Honour to receive your Majesty's Commands for this Month past, and knowing by our Instructions, and the Dispatches address'd to us by Monsieur de Lionne since we were here, that your Majesty is for Peace ; we believe we shou'd fail of doing our Duty, if

we lost an Opportunity of doing it, now that the *English* seem to give us the Means, and be entirely brought to Reason.

But foreseeing Monsieur *de Wit*, not daring to break off, for what relates to the States Interest, they being granted all they cou'd reasonably pretend to, will dispose the Province of *Holland* to declare she is satisfy'd; however, that she will not consent to an Accommodation, unless the King of *Denmark* be satisfy'd too: we most humbly desire your Majesty, to give us Orders as to what 'tis your Pleasure we shou'd do in this Case, that we may not run the hazard of signing a Treaty without express Orders, which may not be sign'd by your Allies.

In the mean time we will do what lies in our Power to remove this Difficulty, and incessantly labour about drawing up the Articles, that no time may be lost. There's not one about which there will not be great Contests, and we have three on foot which will keep us employ'd; for without injuring the Treaty of 1662, or engaging in a Regulation of Trade, we are endeavouring to find out Expedients to distinguish and specific contraband Goods, to moderate the Rigour of the Act of Navigation pass'd by the Parliament of *England*, which is very prejudicial to the Trade of the Subjects of the *United-Provinces*, and taking measures to hinder for the future, that under Colour of driving out Rebels on both Sides, contain'd by the 6, 7, and 8th Articles of the Treaty of 1662, the Ministers who leave *England* or *Scotland*, for not conforming to the Protestants, may live freely in the Provinces under the Dominion of the States, without giving the King of *Great-Britain* any occasion to complain of the Treaty being broken.

The States had rather abandon 100 *English* and *Scots* Officers who have been in their Service, and suffer their Estates to be confiscated, than consent

to the usual Clause of Amnesty, for restoring the Estates of such as have serv'd on both Sides; and that for fear two of their Subjects who fled to *England* when *le Buat* was executed, shou'd enjoy the benefit of it. Monsieur *Beverning* own'd himself it was a shame, but at the same time said he was not Master. We see plainly whence it comes, and that a private Interest prevents the Honour and Reputation the States ought to maintain in the Publick. We content our selves, Sir, only to represent these Things to your Majesty, without abusing any further your little leisure, to shew you what Sort of People we have to do with. The Ambassadors of *England* make a Point of Honour of every Thing; and tho' the States Deputies say their Minds are not alter'd, they are so far from keeping to what they gave in Writing, that they wou'd in all Things take new Advantages, as if they cou'd overturn the Treaty of 1662. However, we don't despair of terminating their Differences, but as we have already observ'd, if the Affair is not retarded by their Interests, Monsieur *de Wit* will easily suspend it, under colour of those of the King of *Denmark*; and we know already 'tis reported up and down in the Provinces, that as soon as your Majesty is at Liberty, you will enter into Alliances with *England* and *Sweden*; and that the best Way to prevent it, is to lengthen out a Negotiation, during which the Allies appear to be, and in effect are Masters of the Sea.

Wherefore, Sir, it extreamly imports us to receive your Majesties Orders, that we may speak more plainly to these People, and to know whether in case they shou'd endeavour to amuse us with Trifles, it will be permitted us to declare, that your Majesty having hitherto been at so great Expence to please them, and finding the King of *Great Britain* has agreed to their Demands, we cannot any longer delay signing a Treaty of Peace, which

which will be for all their Advantages, and by which your Majesty will voluntarily have parted with, what it wou'd have been easy for you to have kept.

The *English* Ambassadors have made great Instances to us for the Restitution of the Isles of *Tobago*, and *St. Eustachia*, so far as to alledge, 'twas promis'd at *Paris* they shou'd be restor'd. They still talk'd to us yesterday with a great deal of Positiveness; we excus'd our selves after such a Manner, that we believe they have lost all hope of gaining that Point; but we can't enough admire at their insisting so long on a Demand which they know to be so ill grounded, and in which we perceiv'd they did not expect we shou'd give 'em any Satisfaction.

We have just now receiv'd Advice from the *Hague*, that the *Marine* Treaty between the States and *Sweden* is put off, for their not being able to agree about the Act of Neutrality, and the Subsistence of the Treaty between *England* and *Sweden*; Monsieur *de Wit* and the Commissioners have thought it most proper, to let the said *Marine* Treaty stand on the same foot with the rest.

The States Fleet are to be divided into three Squadrons, one to remain at the *Thames* Mouth, another to go North to secure the return of the *India* Ships, and the third to cruize in the Channel.

From the Count d'Estades to Monsf. de Lionne,
July 7, 1667.

YOU see whereabouts we are, and that 'tis time we shou'd know what we are to do. If his Majesties Allies wou'd put off the Conclusion of the Peace, we can't venture to sign it alone without expresse Orders for our Discharge; and if a
Courier

Courier don't disengage us from the Embarrass we are in, the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, who are more positive than one cou'd imagine, will tell us, that the *English* Ambassadors were above a Month without answering them, under colour that they must wait for Orders from their Master, on the Project that was deliver'd them; so 'tis necessary also that they send this Answer to *Copenhagen*, to know if their Orders are chang'd; By this means we shall be above a Month without doing any Thing, and this is what Monsieur de *Wit* won'd have. As to us, we propose only to execute punctually his Majesties Orders, and can assure you we will not lose a Moment's Time to secure the issue of Affairs pursuant to our Instructions: In effect, we do nothing but go and come from one and t'other, and the *Swedish* Ambassadors don't complain of us, because we forward their Business, and exercise the true function of Mediators. In all probability we shall be oblig'd to make three different Treaties, because the *English* in mentioning the Terms, during which there shall be no Reparation for Prizes taken before the Publication of the Peace be known, will stick upon having the Channel call'd the *Britannick* Sea, a Term already made use of between *England* and *Denmark*, and the States; therefore since we can't suffer it, nor also hinder its being us'd as usual, the Expedient we shall take will be to insert another Word in the Articles we shall sign, which will be only those that relate to his Majesty's Interests, and to sign a Declaration at the same time, if the Allies desire it, by which we shall, both the one and the other acknowledge, that tho' for certain Considerations we sign'd separate Treaties such a Day, yet in truth 'tis but one and the same Treaty concluded with common Consent, pursuant to the Terms of the Alliance between your Majesty, the King of *Denmark*, and the States.

From

From the Count d'Estrades to the King.
 July 13, 1667.

WE just now receiv'd your Majesties Dispatches of the 30th of June, and 4th Instant you will see by the Memorial, containing a Relation of what pass'd at our last Conferences, that we have agreed on the Articles of three Treaties to be sign'd the same Day, and that 'tis not necessary for your Majesty to give the 50000 Franks for Satisfaction to the Interested in the two Ships. We have omitted nothing to dispose the States Plenipotentiaries to come to some Composition in that Affair, and if the *English* knew what Pains we have taken in it, they wou'd not complain of us; but it had been dangerous to give them intimation of it, and hinder'd their accepting the Alternative, without which no Peace cou'd have been made.

The Debt of 120000 Crowns contracted by the King of *Denmark* in assisting the late King of *Great Britain* ought not to be look't on as extravagant by the Chancellor of *England*, and the *English* Ambassadors are not of that Opinion, nay, he himself has written 'em in quite another manner, than he wrote to Monsieur *du Ruigny*, It seems now, Sir, of the last Importance for securing the Peace; that your Majesty cause it to be declar'd to the King of *Great Britain* by the best and speediest way, you doubt not he has giv'n his Ambassadors Power to sign the Articles, as has been agreed on by the Intercession of the Mediators, and that you let him know, you have promis'd your Allies, that nothing shall be alter'd; for if the *English* are not depriv'd of all hopes of Success by Negotiating, 'tis to be fear'd they will still defer the Conclusion of the Treaty, at least the Fault they have committed in

in not coming to an Accommodation before the States Fleet came out, gives us ground to apprehend, they may be guilty of some other false Step.

We have so positively promis'd the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States, that we will keep steady to the Resolutions that have been taken between us; that we think it is for your Majesties Honour to keep our Words with 'em, and conclude the Peace in conjunction with them. Your Majesty may now do it, and we believe the Ambassadors of *England* are too wise, as to go so far as to declare the Articles we have agreed on seem to them to be just, unless they are satisfy'd their Master will approve of 'em.

As to what relates to the Explanation of the 6, 7, and 8th Articles of the Treaty of 1662, the Acceptation of the Articles which relate to the Specification of Contraband Merchandize, and that which is to be sign'd separately from Export of Rhenish Wines, the Mediators having assur'd the States Plenipotentiaries, they shall have Satisfaction thereon. 'Twou'd not have been decent to have hinder'd it, and the Ambassadors of *England* might have satisfy'd themselves, that as to those three Points, we have done our utmost endeavour with the Plenipotentiaries, to bring them to Reason.

MEMORIAL Of what pass'd at the Conferences held the 6, 7, 8, and 9th of this Month.

THE Conferences began every Day at 8 a Clock in the Morning, last'd till Noon, were renew'd at Three, and continu'd till 9 at Night; Affairs were there treated jointly, but to avoid Confusion, we thought it more proper to separate them, and give your Majesty an Account of what relates to *France*, then what concerns *Denmark*; and

and lastly, what has respect to the States. The Ambassadors of *England* in answer to the Project we gave them, propos'd, that if some of the Inhabitants of *Acadia* wou'd retire, they shou'd be permitted to dispose of their Estates, and carry off their Moveables within the Term of one Year, which was granted them as being just and conformable to the Articles agreed on between Messieurs *de Bouilles* and *Chairguy*, and the Ambassador of the King of *Great Britain* in the Year 1632. A Copy of which Monsieur *Cancard* sent us by Monsieur *Colbert's* Order.

Instead of consenting, it shou'd be said in the 10th Article, that your Majesty wou'd restore the Isles of *Antego* and *Montserrat*, and all others belonging to the King of *Great Britain*, of which he was in possession before the War began, between him and the States-General of the *United-Provinces*. In the Article they drew up, they said, your Majesty shou'd restore all those that belong'd to the King their Master, of which he was in possession before the War began; That was captious, and if we had agreed to it, they might afterwards have urg'd, that by treating separately, and signing with us only, the beginning of the War ought to be reckon'd from the Day of your Majesty's Declaration, made publick in the beginning of the Year 1666, that is, two Years after the Rupture between *England* and the States, during which, the *English* took the Isles of *Tobago* and *St. Eustachio*, and were in possession of 'em, when your Majesty broke with them.

They insisted positively on this Point, maintaining, 'twas so understood at *Paris*; we maintain'd the contrary, and that 'twas not likely your Majesty wou'd oblige himself to give up what belong'd to the Allies, which they now demanded, and had retaken with their Troops in
con-

‘ conjunction with yours. At last after long Con-
 ‘ tests, the said Ambassadors agreed ’twas just and
 ‘ reasonable that the Article shou’d remain as we
 ‘ had drawn it; but to discharge them, they de-
 ‘ sir’d they might send a Courier to *London*, signi-
 ‘ fying to us, they did not doubt but he wou’d
 ‘ bring back Orders for ’em to accept of it.

‘ They desir’d then another might be added for
 ‘ the restoring of Slaves, alledging, Land wou’d
 ‘ be of no use to them, if they had not also that
 ‘ which made it valuable.

‘ This occasion’d great Debates, We said it had
 ‘ never been talk’d of that Slaves are moveable
 ‘ Goods, which are not us’d to be restor’d by Trea-
 ‘ ties of Peace; that having taken Arms on the
 ‘ promise made ’em by the *French* to set them at
 ‘ Liberty, ’twou’d be to break their Words against
 ‘ Humanity, and to violate in some sort the Law
 ‘ of Nations, to deprive them of that Blessing, by
 ‘ delivering ’em up to enrag’d Masters. In the
 ‘ end we agreed upon this Point too, considering
 ‘ that we had no positive Orders on this Matter; but
 ‘ that your Majesties Commands were positive in
 ‘ our Instructions, to conclude the Peace as soon as
 ‘ possible; that we had not in a Month receiv’d
 ‘ any News, that we might perhaps wast as much
 ‘ Time in expecting further Orders as to this Diffi-
 ‘ culty, we thought it necessary to come to an Ex-
 ‘ pedient therein; which was to consent that those
 ‘ Slaves who were willing to return to their *En-
 ‘ glish* Masters, might, without being compell’d,
 ‘ and in all likelihood, few wou’d return to the
 ‘ Yoke of the *English*, against whom they had re-
 ‘ volted.

‘ The Ambassadors approv’d of this Proposal al-
 ‘ so, with the same Condition of waiting for the
 ‘ return of the Courier: We told them ’twas all
 ‘ we had to say, and whatever Answer they re-
 ‘ ceiv’d, wou’d not alter it. The Time of Opti-
 ‘ cn

on was regulated to fix Months, reckoning from the Day of the restoring of the Isles, because the Masters of the Slaves wou'd not be on the Places when the King of *Great Britain's* Commissioners might take possession of 'em in his Name.

'Twas then propos'd, that all Ordinances that had been publish'd on both Sides, on account of the War, to the prejudice of Navigation, shou'd be revok'd.

This being a Thing usual in all Treaties, we cou'd not oppose it, and the more, because the Prohibition of importing *English* Cloth to *France*, was we think made before the Month of *February* 1666; but if 'twas afterwards, after the revoking it by virtue of this Article, it may be renew'd within three Months, for it being a reciprocal Condition, it only relates to the abolishing of Things done, to do one another Damage during the War; and do's not deprive Sovereigns of their Liberty, such sorts of Regulations in Times of Peace. The Expression *Senatus Consultus* was put in to denote the Acts of Parliament of *England*, and the Article couched in the same Terms, 'twas inserted in the Draught of the States Plenipotentiaries. The said Ambassadors desire it might be added to the Article of ours, which concern'd Letters of Reprisal; that in case there was no Minister on the part of the King, against whose Subjects they may be demanded in the Court of the other, these Letters might not be granted till four Months after the Request was presented to the King, whose Subjects were complain'd of to his Council.

This Condition being Reciprocal, we consented to add it, tho' it appear'd to us to be useless, for 'tis not likely there will in time of Peace be no Ambassador or Resident in the two Courts.

The last Alteration was instead of these Words, *In the Streight between France and England*, we put

‘ *in the Neighbouring Seas* for the Term of 12 Days;
 ‘ reckoning from that of the Publication of the
 ‘ Peace; during which, to avoid new occasion of
 ‘ Quarrel, there shall be no Restitution of Prizes
 ‘ taken on both Sides.

‘ The Ambassadors Reason was, there might be
 ‘ Prizes taken in the Channel, between *England*
 ‘ and *Ireland*. We perceiv’d, that because we were
 ‘ not willing to use the Term *Britannick Sea*, as the
 ‘ Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States had
 ‘ done, Messieurs *Hollis* and *Covenry*, were very glad
 ‘ to avoid also the Terms by which the Seas wou’d
 ‘ seem to be in Common. But as those Words, the
 ‘ *Neighbouring Seas in Maribus proximis*, signifie no-
 ‘ thing detrimental to your Majesty; we resolv’d
 ‘ to admit them, and not to stop longer about Tri-
 ‘ fles, which might put off the Conclusion of the
 ‘ Treaty.

‘ As that of *Denmark*, it gave us a great deal of
 ‘ Trouble; the Plenipotentiaries at last comply’d
 ‘ in the Article of the *Orcades*, tho’ they read us
 ‘ a Letter dated the first of this Month, in which
 ‘ they were order’d not to comply. We being ad-
 ‘ vis’d that the King of *Denmark* had caus’d a Ma-
 ‘ nifesto to be publish’d, which however has not
 ‘ appear’d; we stop’d their Mouths as to Affronts,
 ‘ and they consented the Memory of them shou’d
 ‘ be abolish’d on both Sides.

‘ They for three Days resist’d with the last Ob-
 ‘ stinacy the Instances of the Mediators, Ours and
 ‘ the States Plenipotentiaries, as to the Article re-
 ‘ lating to the Re-establishment of Commerce, and
 ‘ the Liberty the Subjects of both Nations are to
 ‘ have of Trade after the Peace; they added to it,
 ‘ *paying the Duties other Nations pay, with whom there’s*
 ‘ *no particular Treaty.*

‘ The Ambassadors of *England* said, the King of
 ‘ *Denmark* having Marine Treaties with *France*, *Swe-*
 ‘ *den*, the *United Provinces*, and almost all Nations
 ‘ that

that trade to the *Baltick*. If the Duties of the *Sound* were not regulated, they wou'd raise 'em, for the *English*, which wou'd deprive 'em of a Commerce they cou'd not be without.

' They wou'd therefore for this Consideration have that the Duties shou'd be paid according to the Regulation contain'd in the Treaty made in the Year 1660, between *England* and *Denmark*.

' The Plenipotentiaries reply'd, that Treaty did not now Subsist; and nevertheless, they wou'd renew it by this, in case the Ambassadors consented the third Article shou'd be raz'd.

' By this Article the King of *Denmark* was oblig'd not to assist the Enemies of the King of *Great Britain*; we, as well as the Plenipotentiaries of the States, declar'd we cou'd not consent that Article shou'd be confirm'd, because your Majesty or the States entring again into a War with the King of *Great Britain*, the King of *Denmark* wou'd not be permitted to make good the Contents of the Treaties of Alliance between your Majesty and the States.

' The *English* Ambassadors offer'd to derogate from the third Article in question, provided the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* wou'd give the same Consent to the Fourth, by which the King of *Great Britain* was not only oblig'd not to assist the King of *Denmark's* Enemies, but to help him.

' The latter alledg'd to defend themselves, that 'twas in Consideration of that Succour that the Duties of the *Sound* were moderated.

' To accommodate this Affair, we propos'd to name any past Year that the Duties might be paid for the Future as they were then. The *Danes* chose the Year 1650, when the *English* paid like other Nations, because *Cromwell* was not then well settled, that he was then at Wars in *Ireland*, and the *Scots* had invited the King of *Great Britain* into *Scotland*; the *English* offer'd to regulate it

' by the Year 1662, when they enjoy'd the Be-
 ' nefit of the last Treaty. After many Comings and
 ' Goings, we told them 'twas a Point that related
 ' to the Regulation of Trade which was to be con-
 ' certed at *London* after the Peace, and our Design
 ' being to conclude it forthwith, we desir'd them
 ' to agree that the Article shou'd be worded simply,
 ' that the Subjects of both Nations shou'd be free to
 ' trade without specifying any thing of Duties,
 ' because according to what the said Plenipotencia-
 ' ries had confest to us the Difference between what
 ' was paid before the Year 1660, and what was paid
 ' since was very inconsiderable; and the King their
 ' Master (for not staying till the Regulations to be
 ' set a foot immediately after the Peace be conclu-
 ' ded) shou'd not for a small Matter provoke the
 ' *English*, nor lose the Advantage they may reap
 ' from the Necessity they are in to bring Abundance
 ' of Merchandize through the *Sound*.

' These Gentlemen follow'd our Advice, and the
 ' last Difficulty we had to get over was for his
 ' Debts.

' Your Majesty has been already inform'd of the
 ' Rise of that of 120000 Crowns, and the King
 ' of *Denmark* having run into it, only to assist the
 ' late King of *Great Britain*; we make such great
 ' Efforts with the Ambassadors of *England*, not only
 ' by way of the Mediators, but going our selves
 ' and discoursing 'em in their Apartment, and prov'd
 ' to 'em so well, not only that the Thing was just
 ' in it self, but that the Dispute being so plainly de-
 ' cided in the Treaties concluded between *France*
 ' and *Spain*, 'twas impossible for us to separate from
 ' the King of *Denmark*'s Interests on an Occasion
 ' where nothing else was requisite but the Appli-
 ' cation of a Law your Majesty's Predecessors had
 ' made, and your Majesty your self lately renew'd
 ' by the 29th Article of the *Pyrenean* Treaty. So
 ' that after having stood out two whole Days, they
 ' yielded

yielded at last, and declar'd they thought 'twas but just; but having no positive Orders about it, they wou'd send away an Express for them, that they might give up that Point. We were then oblig'd to manage the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, who were positive that the other Debts the King their Master had contracted with the *English* Merchants, who had furnish'd him with Cloth for his Soldiers and Servants shou'd be likewise abolish'd; which did not appear to us to be just or honourable: So that the Plenipotentiaries of the States joining with us, we at last concluded it with this Condition, that without mentioning any Debt but that of 120000 Crowns, the abolishing of which was stipulated, the Mediators, the States Plenipotentiaries, and we, shou'd each of us give a Declaration to the Ambassadors of *England*, by which we acknowledg'd the abolishing of the other Debts was not compriz'd in the Article of the 120000 Crowns.

Thence we proceeded to the Difficulties we met with between *England* and the States, and thought it proper to begin with the Articles that serve for the Foundation of the Treaty, that is those in which the Acceptation of the Alternative was accepted. The *English* had drawn 'em up in Terms a little too obscure, and as soon as the Mediators read them, the States Plenipotentiaries asking Time to examine them, we immediately propos'd the Doubts they wou'd have rais'd the next Day, and told the Mediators that since the Ambassadors of *England* accepted the Alternative without Reserve, 'twas just that all the State's Scruples on that Point shou'd be remov'd; in order to which, they cou'd not be too plain in the Articles; and that the States Plenipotentiaries having drawn 'em up very clear, the best way wou'd be to make use of their Expression. We said as much to the Ambassadors of *England*, representing to 'em that their Draught

‘ making mention only of Ships taken, detain’d or
 ‘ confiscated; did not clearly enough abolish the
 ‘ Demand for the two Ships the *Bonaventure* and
 ‘ *Good Hope*, one of which was sunk, and the other
 ‘ forc’d ashore. Upon our Remonstrances they
 ‘ agreed to carry no Articles to the Mediators, and
 ‘ the latter promis’d to leave ’em as the States Pleni-
 ‘ potentiaries had drawn ’em up. Thus the princi-
 ‘ pal Point was regulated.

‘ ’Twas then agreed that instead of saying, The
 ‘ Treaty of 1662 shou’d be executed in its Form and
 ‘ Tenour, all the Articles shou’d be inserted Word
 ‘ for Word, except the 15th containing the Resti-
 ‘ tution of *Polemon*, and the Reservation of Demands,
 ‘ since the 1st of *January* 1659, especially that of
 ‘ the Ships abovemention’d.

‘ The States made great Instances to obtain an
 ‘ Explanation of the 6th, 7th, and 8th Articles,
 ‘ containing a reciprocal Obligation to drive out
 ‘ Rebels on both Sides. Upon which ’twas at last
 ‘ resolv’d the Mediators shou’d give each Party a
 ‘ Declaration that shou’d contain the Application
 ‘ of those three Articles to Officers serving on one
 ‘ Side or t’other, not against Ministers withdrawing
 ‘ for Religion, without being charg’d with other
 ‘ Crimes.

‘ ’Twas propos’d also, that till a Regulation of
 ‘ Commerce cou’d be agreed upon, a Provisional
 ‘ Specification of contraband Goods shou’d be made,
 ‘ and the Ambassadors of *England* consented at last
 ‘ that the Disposition of the Articles of the *Pyrenean*
 ‘ Treaty shou’d be follow’d *per interim*, or of that
 ‘ between your Majesty and the States; which shou’d
 ‘ be transcrib’d Word for Word in this.

‘ The States Plenipotentiaries demanded that an
 ‘ express Article shou’d be inserted for the Revo-
 ‘ cation of certain Letters of Reprizal granted to
 ‘ the Interested in the two Ships *Good Hope* and *Bo-
 ‘ naventure*. In those Letters which were read, there’s
 ‘ a Clause

a Clause containing, they shall be put in Execution notwithstanding all the Treaties of Peace, or Truce that might intervene. The States Plenipotentiaries fearing that wou'd give Occasion to new Differences, wou'd to the Clause of Revocation have that added to punish, as Pirates, those who shou'd take any Prizes by virtue of those Letters after the Publication of the Peace. The English Ambassadors oppos'd this; maintaining, That in that Case, the Bearers of a Commission, tho' revok'd, ought to be punish'd by their proper Judges, and not as Pirates who are punish'd wherever they are taken. After long Disputes, the said Ambassadors came of themselves to our Apartment, to assure the States Plenipotentiaries of their good Intentions; and the latter at the instances of the Mediators and us, were satisfy'd with having it said, that those who shou'd take any Prizes by Virtue of such Sorts of Letters, shou'd be punish'd according to the Law of Nations, as Disturbers of the Publick Peace, without specifying whether it shou'd be in *England*, or elsewhere.

The greatest Difficulty was about the Separate Article, which serves as an Explanation of the Act pass'd in the Parliament of *England*, in the Year 1660, to encourage Trade. That Act distinguishes the Merchandizes that are not to be imported but on *English* Bottoms, from those Foreigners may bring into *England*.

Messieurs *Hollis* and *Coventry*, agreed that all Merchandizes coming from *Germany* by Rivers passing through the States Country, as Rhenish Wines, might according to the Sense of that Act, be imported in Ships belonging to the States Subjects: But when the Article was drawn up, they insisted on using these Latin Words, *Non nisi*, to say, it shou'd be Merchandizes only convey'd by Rivers, the Mouths of which are in the States Countries. The said Plenipotentiaries maintain'd, That these Words,

' *Non nisi*, wou'd deprive 'em of all the Advantages
 ' they might make by the Export of Wines ; be-
 ' cause the *Engliſh* might ſay, that thoſe Wines be-
 ' ing to be carried in Waggonſ to the *Elbe* or the
 ' *Scheld*, and ſo by *Hamburgh*, or the Canal of *Oſtend*,
 ' without paſſing thro' the States Country, as it
 ' wou'd not be true to alledge they wou'd come only
 ' by the *Scheld*, the *Rhine*, or the *Maeſe* ; ſo it might
 ' be pretended the Article ought not to be apply'd
 ' to Merchandizes that might be exported another
 ' Way.

' The Ambaſſadors of *England* came Yeſterday
 ' to our Apartment, to declare they did not intend
 ' to give room to any Chicanry, that they inſiſted
 ' on the Words *Non niſi*, only not to vary from the
 ' A& of Parliament. They repreſented to us, that
 ' as 'twas publiſh'd a long time before the War, 'twas
 ' not in their Power to alter the Terms of it ; and
 ' to ſhew us they acted ſincerely, they offer'd to add
 ' theſe Words, *Quam plurimum ſubvehi ſolent*, which
 ' are not generally us'd to be convey'd in Waggonſ.
 ' The Mediators preſt the Plenipotentiaries to be ſa-
 ' tisfy'd with it, we made 'em the ſame Inſtances,
 ' repreſenting to 'em this Expreſſion wou'd ſuffici-
 ' ently ſecure their Commerce, and that every body
 ' wou'd think that the true Way of Merchandizes
 ' heing by the *Rhine* and the *Maeſe*, 'twou'd be a
 ' groundleſſ piece of Chicanry to maintain the
 ' Carriage ought to be by the longeſt and moſt
 ' difficult Ways which Merchants were not wont
 ' to make.

' The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* ſaid the ſame.
 ' This laſted a whole Hour, they withdrew, and re-
 ' turning answer'd plainly, they wou'd break off
 ' the Negotiation if the Words *Non niſi* were not
 ' left out.

' We deſir'd the Ambaſſadors of *England* to let
 ' us talk to 'em a little. They went to their A-
 ' partment, we left the Mediators in ours ; and
 ' having

having invited the States Plenipotentiaries, and those of *Denmark*, to go into a Room with us, we forgot nothing that might dispose 'em by Mildness and Reason to consent that those Words shou'd be added, which appear'd to us to be significant enough to secure the Trade of their Subjects ; we cou'd not stir 'em, and finding they were so obstinate , we thought our selves oblig'd to ask them if they were not for a Peace, because we cou'd not imagin they heartily desir'd it, as they express'd themselves to us, or they wou'd not let an Opportunity slip of concluding it with Advantage for a Scruple which seem'd to us to have so little Foundation. The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* talk'd to them much after the same Rate. They reply'd, they desir'd Peace and wou'd make it by razing out these two Words ; otherwise they wou'd never make it.

We then resum'd the Discourse thus ; Gentlemen, 'tis time for us to explain our selves, The King, our Master, brought on the Negotiation by Monsieur *de Ruvoigny's* Billet, after having communicated to you, you consented his Majesty shou'd assure the King of *Great Britain* the Peace shou'd be concluded, by leaving all Things in their present Condition, and abolishing all Demands : you went farther ; for you wrote to *England*, and printed what you wrote ; you did not stop there ; for in a second Letter to the King of *England*, you engag'd Peace being made on your Offers to execute the Treaty of 1662. Since the Success you met with in your late Enterprize, you have assur'd them you did not pretend to new Conditions. We have gone upon this Bottom ; and have not only dispos'd the Ambassadors of *England* to accept of the Alternative plainly and simply (after which we might have said the Peace was made, and we were at Liberty to sign it with Honour , since all your Demands were granted) but we have declar'd to

'em we wou'd not do it, unless you were satisfy'd on all the other Points you had propos'd to us, and our Firmness has been the Cause the Ambassadors consented the Mediators shou'd give you a Declaration to explain three Articles of the Treaty of 1662, and which explain'd them according to your Intentions. We also dispos'd 'em to accept provisionally of the Articles of the Treaty we have with you for the Specification of contraband Goods; we have also oblig'd them to secure to your Subjects the Carriage of all Merchandize that come from *Germany*.

' After this, we believ'd we had done more than we were oblig'd to do, and can't think you'll pretend that for two Words which do you no Injury, the King our Master shou'd any longer be at the excessive Expence he's burthen'd with, and engag'd himself in, to give you the Means to make the more advantageous Peace.

' After we had thus discours'd to them, they withdrew to confer together; and about a quarter of an Hour after, Monsieur *Beverning*, who till then had made all the Difficulties smooth, came back, took up his Papers and Hat which lay on the Table, and said, shaking his Head, and with a little hasty Air, We will do Nothing. His way of Speaking, made us think we ought to return the like, and oblig'd us to reply, Well, Sir, you will do nothing, and we shall acquaint the King how you deal with us; we will dispatch a Courier to Morrow to receive his Orders, and you may guess now what he'll command us. We then went out and told some Men, who we knew wou'd soon tell 'em again, we had nothing more to treat of with them.

' The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* came to us betimes the next Day, beg'd of us to excuse the said *Beverning's* Heat; and assur'd us, they wou'd give us Satisfaction. We told 'em we desir'd no
 thing

thing more than to make a Peace with our Al-
 lies, but that 'twas just we shou'd have regards
 one for another; that we were putting down
 in Writing, as they might see we having the Pen
 in Hand, the Detail of what had past, that our
 Courier wou'd depart that Evening; and, if be-
 fore that Time, the States Plenipotentiaries con-
 sented to leave in the Two Words *Non nisi*, we
 were ready to meet again, and conclude all. They
 went from us to them, and return'd in a moment
 after to desire us to be at the Castle at Four a
 Clock; we gave notice of it to the Mediators,
 and that if they wou'd go to the *English* Ambassa-
 dors, we hop'd all Things wou'd end well. Mon-
 sieur *Beverning*, as soon as we came together, said
 he shou'd be sorry if the Peace shou'd break off
 for these two Words, and after having propos'd
 to leave them by putting *Plerumque usitatus &*
Commodius, instead of *quam plurimum*, to denote
 that those Merchandizes us'd to be most com-
 monly and commodiously carried in Boats thro'
 the States Country. The Article was drawn up
 in Writing.

We endeavour'd to get of the *English* Ambassa-
 dors conformable to what they had told us by
 word of Mouth the day before, when they
 protested their Intention was not that under Pre-
 text of those two Words, any Chicanry shou'd
 be committed, or to maintain that Merchandize
 might be carry'd any other Way; but on their
 refusing it, repeating however the same Protesta-
 tions in Presence of the Mediators, we promis'd
 the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* a Paper to be
 made use of in Time and Place as they shou'd
 think fit; and by this Means they were fully
 satisfy'd.

They had also propos'd to stipulate the same
 Liberty for Importing French Wines into *England*,
 urging that Permission was tacitely contain'd in
 the

the Act of Parliament; the Ambassadors excusing themselves therein, the said Plenipotentiaries were content to desire Monsieur Coventry to represent their Reasons to the King of *Great Britain*, provided nevertheless, that if they did not satisfy him, the Peace shou'd not be broken off on that Account, which was declar'd in presence of the Mediators: This done, all the Draughts and separate Articles were read, and the particular Declarations which were to be given on both Sides, and the Mediators having declar'd we were all agreed, and the *English* Ambassadors agreeing to all, we thought proper to go all together to the Apartment of the latter; where being all Standing, and without minding Precedence, we told them pursuant to the Resolution concerted between us, and to take away all hopes from the King of *England*, or his Ministers, of having any Thing alter'd, that after having treated with them as Ambassadors furnish'd with sufficient Powers which we had found to be in due Form, all the Articles having been drawn up with great Variation in the Terms to which the Mediators had made us agree, we declar'd to them, one single Word shou'd not be chang'd; and if the King of *Great Britain* gave them Power to sign them, we wou'd sign 'em immediately after the Return of Mr. *Coventry*; otherwise we had nothing to do but to be gone. The Mediators at our Request took upon them to write it down the same Sense, and the Ambassadors of *England* having declar'd to us they thought all the Articles Just and Reasonable, and hop'd they shou'd have Orders to sign them; and having thank'd us for our Carriage to them during the whole Course of the Negotiation; the Ambassadors of *Sweden* saying out aloud that we had been the true Mediators, and that without us Things wou'd not have been as they then were; we all embrac'd, as being then no longer

longer Enemies, and afterwards each withdrew to his Home.

The next Day, Mr. *Coventry* came to take his Leave of us, we desir'd him (whatever the Earl of *St. Albans* might have written of your Majesty's Intentions) to assure the King of *Great Britain*, we had done nothing but according to our Orders, and having given our Words to the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States not to sign any Treaty if any Thing was alter'd that was agreed upon, we were very well satisfy'd your Majesty, to whom we were sending a Dispatch, wou'd not order us to be wanting in any Thing of what we had so solemnly promis'd. He apprehended himself that this Precaution was necessary on account of the Misunderstanding we had been at so much Pains to rectify, and had no other cause but the little Knowledge the said Earl had of the Contents of the Articles of the Treaty of 1662. Thus every Thing is finish'd with great Mildness and Civility. The Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States have return'd us abundance of Thanks, and all the concern'd Friends and Enemies confess if the Peace be made, 'twill be owing to the Care your Majesty has taken, and the good Offices you have render'd them.

The Mediators behav'd themselves very handsomly, and as Men whose Intentions were good. Monsieur *de Beverning* was a little too warm once, but we must do him the Justice to own he has extremely helpt us to overcome all the Difficulties that offer'd; particularly those rais'd by the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark*, and as he has a great deal of good Sense and Experience, things went on the faster, because he was the Chief, and as one may say, the Soul of the States Deputation. Done at *Breda*, the 12th of *July* 1667.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne,
July 13. 1667.

THE Memorial we desire you to read to the King, will inform you what we have done in the Execution of his Orders. Diligence was what we aim'd at, pursuant to our Instructions; and you will doubtless imagine, that to make three Treaties in six Day's Time, is to have made use of it well: Indeed to say Truth, we labour'd from Morning till Night, and had we not forwarded the Negotiation as we did, it wou'd not have been ended so soon. Mr. *Coventry* went hence the 12th at Three a Clock in the Morning, a Friggat waited for him at *Flushing* by Order of the States of *Zealand*. We hope he will not be above 10 or 12 Days in his Voyage. The King of *Great Britain* to satisfy his People has been oblig'd to summon the Parliament to meet the 25th of this Month, the 5th of *August* our Stile; which is a great Sign of the Confusion he's in: We hope he'll be willing to have the Peace sign'd before they meet, to put the People in a good humour on that News, which will be very Welcome at *London*.

You know, Sir, that when Treaties are concluded by way of Mediators, 'tis usual to give Presents, 'tis time to think of it, if his Majesty intends it. Messieurs *Fleming* and *Dbona* are two Persons of Consideration. The first a Senator, and one of the Ancientest Families in *Sweden*; The other, *Mareschal de Camp*, a Man of Service and Merit, Nephew to Madam the Princess Dowager of *Orange*.

If we sign at the return of Mr. *Coventry*, Monsieur *Pelletier* shall bring the Articles to the King,
and

and he being very well inform'd of whatever pass in the Negotiation, will give you a good Account of it, and explain to you our Motives for drawing up the Articles in the Form you see them.

We were not at the Conferences in the Mediators Room ; but when Affairs were to be forwarded they met us in our Apartment, or in that of the *English* Ambassadors ; without which, a great deal more Time wou'd have been spent : every body declar'd there shou'd be no Ceremony. When we were at the Apartment of the *English*, we sat at the End of the Table, They and the Mediators at the two Sides ; At ours, they had the same Seat ; and the last Time we met it was Standing ; our Reason for't was the Death of Monsieur *Coyet*. Monsieur *Fleming* and Monsieur the Count *de Dhona* being Cavaliers, and the latter not understanding Latin, they always desir'd us to take Pen in Hand to find out Expedients, by which the Difficulties that offer'd might be remov'd.

From Monsieur de Lionne to Messieurs d'Estrades and Courtin, July 15, 1667.

I Have sent the King your last Dispatch of the and at the same Time wrote him my weak Sentiments of the troublesome Incident which has happen'd in your Negotiation, and as to which you desire to be inform'd of his Majesty's Intentions. In the Answer he has done me the Honour to send me, he answers me to write to you thereon from him, that he desires you continue to do your utmost Endeavours to let the *Danish* Ministers understand what you think to be reasonable, that the Difficulty they have rais'd may not hinder the Conclusion of the Treaty. But if all your Endeavours and Persuasions

suasions do not prevail with them, and they declare that they will receive their Master's Order before they depart from their Demand; His Majesty out of Honour, and his wonted fair dealing with his Allies, cannot resolve to order you his Plenipotentiaries to sign a Treaty wherein one of the Potentates his Confederates, who is engag'd in the same War, is not compriz'd, and you must necessarily defer the Signing till the said *Danish* Ministers have receiv'd new Orders from the King of *Denmark*, which they desire, to impower them to Sign. However you, and the States Deputies there, may in this Interval of Time agree with the Ambassadors of *England* upon all the Articles that relate to the King and the States; and that there may be nothing chang'd in 'em, to set 'em jointly down in writing, and mark them as concerted and agreed upon, in expectation of New Orders from the King of *Denmark*, to conclude all together. When Things are come to that, you may agree upon a Suspension of Arms, if the States are willing; if not, you will shew the Ambassadors of *England* the King's Disposition and good Will.

Such is the King's Resolution, which to speak plainly to you, so much the better, because besides the Reasons of Honour and fair Dealing, there are at present a great many others; by which his Majesty ought rather to be glad than sorry, if the Negotiation was spun out a longer Time, provided it was not for his Interests; since if you observe, as I doubt not you do, Affairs have sufficiently chang'd Face since your former Orders to conclude, for that his Majesty is at no more trouble about the Junction of his Fleet, for which he is not now prest, and as all his other Matters depend on the Success of his Enterprize in *Flanders*, as long as the Peace with *England* is not made, the *English* and *Dutch* cannot take Measures to put a Stop to his Progress; and you know
their

their Union in it is the most dangerous and almost the only Thing the King has to fear : Besides, we are inform'd the King of *England* is making great Levies of Troops ; now whether he has any ill Designs against us, or that his Parliament whom he has been as it were forc'd to humour, obliges him to make War with the King, 'twou'd be better the Peace were not made, because we shou'd still have the States and the King of *Denmark* for our Companions.

They wrote to me from *Compeigne* that *Courtray* wou'd be taken in three Days, that the King was to return to the Army next *Tuesday*, and the Queen was advancing to *Arras*, and perhaps to *Doway*, to shew her new Subjects their Sovereign ; and that Monsieur the Dauphin was coming to *St. Germain*. If the King can execute his Project he will press Monsieur *Casq Rodrigo* in more sensible and important Parts than he has yet done, tho' the Part be Great.

Sign'd,

DE LIONNE.

P O S T S C R I P T.

I send you, Gentlemen, a Petition sent me by Monsieur *Hooft* from *St. John Luz* ; and finding his Request very just, so I think 'tis for the Service that you back it, and I shall besides be oblig'd to you.

From

From the Count d'Estrades to the King.

July 21, 1667.

I Remain at the *Hague* to wait for an Answer from Monsieur *de Wit* to your Majesty's Memorial of the 4th Instant ; He came to me this Morning and told me, that after having as from himself discours'd the most able Deputies of the Assembly of *Holland* on those Matters, they thought by the Conversation they have had with the *Spanish* Ambassador *Friquet*, and others well-affected to their Party, that the *Spaniards* had as good abandon all the Low-Countries to your Majesty, as yield up the Places and Countries you demand ; But if you wou'd be contented with a moderate Demand, as your Majesty told the *Sieur van Beumingen* ; the *Sieur de Wit*, and the Deputies his Friends, with whom he had confer'd, as from himself, thought they might get the *Spaniards* to satisfy your Majesty according to the following Conditions.

To yield up the *Franche Comté*, *Cambray* and *Cambresis*, *St. Omer*, *Air* and *Doway*, *Bergue* and *Furnes*, with their *Chattellanies* ; that *Tournay* shou'd be restor'd, *Charleroy* raz'd and demolish'd, and all the other Places taken be restor'd. That your Majesty shall make a Suspension of Arms for three Months, and the States negotiate in *Spain* and at *Vienna*, to get the *Spaniards* to consent to it ; and in case they cannot be brought to give your Majesty Satisfaction as above specify'd, the States shall take Arms to compel them to't as soon as the three Months are expir'd, which they will engage to do by a Treaty. The said *Sieur de Wit* told me, the Dutchy of *Luxemburgh* was too near their Country of *Outre Meuse*, and he cou'd never bring the States to agree to such
a Divi-

a Division, and perform what your Majesty desires of them.

He added, he cou'd not meddle if your Majesty reserv'd your Claims, in case the King of *Spain* died without Lawful Issue, that 'twon'd be to fall into greater Confusions than at this time; that the States wou'd have more cause to fear your great Power and encrease their Jealousies; but he had thought of a Way to quiet their Minds in such Case, which was if your Majesty wou'd consent to make a Treaty separate from the former, and execute the Design talkt of sometime ago, your Majesty and the States wou'd then drive the *Spaniards* out of the *Low-Countries*, oblige the greatest Cities to form a Republick, which might infallibly be done before the Emperor and he be in a Condition to help them. By this Means your Majesty wou'd be at Liberty to possess the Succession in the whole Extent of the Kingdoms the *Spaniards* enjoy; and he thought 'twas not a small Matter to have nothing to fear from *Germany*, since the States and their Allies cou'd have a strong Army ready to oppose whatever might come from the Side of the Empire.

I reply'd, I thought the States ought to encrease your Majesty's Conditions rather than diminish them; that you confin'd your self to the Countries and Places nearest your Frontiers, to be farther off from theirs, and hinder their conceiving any Jealousy; that I did not think this Proposal wou'd be approv'd of by your Majesty; however I wou'd be sure to give you an Account of it.

That I cou'd not enough admire at his proposing to resume the Project of Partition in case of the King of *Spain*'s Death without Children, since when 'twas made, the Late King of *Spain* and the Present King were Living; That your Majesty had nothing of what you were now possess of; so that the Partition was not equal, since he wou'd have

the Countries and Places contain'd in the said Partition for the States, and propos'd nothing for your Majesty but to join his Arms to give them the said Countries and Places, and form a Republick of the Rest, which wou'd be to abandon a lawful and just Right; and I did not believe your Majesty wou'd so far give up the Queen's; That perhaps your Majesty wou'd hearken to this, if the City of *Luxemburg* with *Doway*, *Tournay*, *Little* and *Newport*, with their Chatellanies, were added to his Division, of which however I made a Doubt, considering how much your Majesty must give up of your Right in doing it.

The *Sieur van Beuningen* is to make a Proposal to your Majesty, for a Guaranty for the Salutation at Sea against the *English*, in case they shou'd practise any Superiority in the Channel.

If the King of *England* after the Treaty of *Breda*, do not give your Majesty any Assurance that he will not assist *Flanders*, nor disturb your Conquests; this will be a Means to engage the States in a Guaranty that may oblige them to break with the King of *England*, in case your Majesty is not safe from him by a good Alliance, and 'twill be necessary to act herein before the Separation of the Assembly for the Month of *August*; Upon which we are in Expectation of your Majesty's Orders.

What I have been able to find out of the *Sieur de Wit*'s Intentions herein is, That if the *English* wou'd make your Majesty's Ships strike to theirs in the Channel or Elsewhere, whether in Fleets or single-Ships, the States wou'd in case of Violence break with them as an Infraction of the Treaty of 1662, and if the *English* shou'd do the same by their Ships, they wou'd have your Majesty break with them; The States resolving not to strike to them, unless they do the same.

The

The Marine Treaty with *Sweden* is sign'd, and that of the Elucidations of *Elbing* about the Ship *Christina*, and a Recompence for some Ports on the Coasts of *Guiney*, is near being concluded. I have help'd as much as I cou'd to facilitate it in your Majesty's Name; and Monsieur *de Wit* has testify'd to the Count *de Dhona*, who has written of it to *Sweden*, the Obligation he had to your Majesty, for your powerful Recommendation of the King his Master's Interests to the States. I also very much insisted on an Accommodation of the *Portugal* Affairs which will be more difficult, because all the *East-India* Company is to be struggled with, and they are in part Judges in this Case: Nevertheless Monsieur *de Wit* has promis'd me, to do his utmost to get them to comply.

I have made great Complaints to Monsieur *de Wit*, for that Admiral *de Ruyter* let 600 *English* Recruits out of the *Thames* for *Ostend*, and told him, 'twas an ill Return for the Obligations the States had to your Majesty for all the Assistances you had given 'em, to facilitate the Passage to their very Enemies, because they are going to succour those with whom your Majesty is in War; and that this Conduct wou'd give grounds to a great many Reflections on the little Security there is in the States Friendship, and the Observation of their Treaties; that I maintain'd to him the *Spaniards* were as much their Enemies as ours, and did not doubt but your Majesty wou'd take it extreamly ill from them; that he might remember when he press'd me to write to your Majesty to join your Fleet with the States, he told me *English* Succours were in the River of *Thames* ready to sail for *Flanders*, which one might hinder going out by being Master of the *Thames* Mouth. To which he reply'd, If your Majesty's Fleet had been there, it might have hinder'd it, but the States cou'd not do it with Justice, having no

War with *Spain*; and *Don Esfeven de Gamarre* having demanded Permission of the States for those Recruits to pass, being rais'd by the King his Master's Money. I see plainly your Majesty is not to expect any Assistance or Favour from the States for the War in *Flanders*, when they are not bound by any Treaty in which they find their Account; and that after the Peace they are Men who are capable of Leaguings with *England* and the House of *Austria*, out of Jealousy of your Conquests. If the King of *England* will take the same Resolution he did when I was Ambassador there, not to pretend to any Thing in *Flanders*, but to assist your Majesty with all his Power to conquer it, provided you wou'd assist him with 10000 Foot and some Horse in case his Subjects revolt, one need not mind the States. But if the said King after the Treaty of *Breda* shou'd pretend to succour *Flanders*, your Majesty will permit me to tell you with all sort of Respect, that I think it wou'd be for your Service to engage the States in your Interests, by the Proposal they make; and to enter into no kind of Engagement with *England*.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count d'Estrades and Courtin. July 22, 1667.

I Am so taken up with Conferances with the Pope's Nephew, whom his Majesty has done me the Honour to refer to me, that I have very little time to answer your Dispatches as I wou'd. I sent them to his Majesty, with the Memorials that accompany'd them. I doubt not the King will have the same Opinion of 'em I have; and that you have both done Wonders. I can't think the *English*, in the Condition their Domestick Affairs
now

now are, will disown their Ambassadors in any Point agreed on ; which they themselves have declar'd to be in their Judgment just and reasonable. Nevertheless that Nation has shewn on this Occasion, and several others, that she is very much an Enemy to the Conclusion of Affairs. I have so order'd Matters, as you thought it proper, that my Lord *St. Albani* wrote on *Wednesday* to the Chancellor of *England*, I have made him a positive Declaration on the Part of the King, and that after all the Articles are agreed upon by the Ministers authoriz'd by good Powers, there's nothing more to be done ; and that the Assembly wou'd break up if Mr. *Cowentry* brought back Orders to change a single Word only.

Till I have the King's Answer, I can't reply to several Heads of your Dispatch, which require it, as on the Liberty of the Earl of *Lincoln* demanded by my Lord *Hollis* ; in which I don't think there will be any Difficulty, and other Matters that relate to each of you in particular ; at Monsieur *Courtin's* Conge after the Exchange of the Ratifications, &c. you will have already heard of the taking of *Cowtray*, that the City stood out but 14 Hours, and the Citadel 30, tho' there were 700 Soldiers in it. Monsieur *de Passage* was hurt with a slight Contusion. The King will arrive at *Donay* to Morrow, and conduct the Queen thither, to show their Sovereign to her new Subjects. *Monsaquelon* the Daughter, and Madame are come back to *Vincennes*, where 'tis said the Queen will be in 15 Days ; while the King pushes on his Conquests. I see nothing stirring on the Side of *Vienna*.

From Monsieur Courtin to Monsieur de Lionne.
July 28, 1667.

I Stay here while Monsieur *d'Estrades* is at the *Hague*. My Lord *Hollis* thinks his Colleague will arrive to Day or to Morrow; He doubts not but he will bring back a Power to sign: Nay, he desir'd me on *Friday* the 18th of this Month, so to manage it, that the *Danish* Plenipotentiaries may write by the Post to the King their Master, to send them his Ratification of the Articles agreed on, leaving the Date in Blank. I wrote at the same time to Monsieur *de Terlon*; let 'em know where he is, it can do no hurt to the King of *Denmark*, and wou'd the sooner render the Sea Free: It being probable the States will not let their Fleet return to the Ports till after the Exchange of the Ratifications. If that does not succeed, and the Council of *Denmark* waits for News of the Signing, 'twill make 'em lose a great deal of Time, for the Plenipotentiaries wou'd not oblige themselves to deliver the Ratification till within a Month, saying there's no Regular Post to *Copenhagen*. I thought at first they were glad to gain Time to be paid the Subsidy the States promis'd them; but there being Seven or Eight Months due, there is no more to be expected on that Score.

My Lord *Hollis* has undertaken to obtain a Pass of the Marquis *Castel Rodrigo* by way of the Resident of *England* at *Brussels* for Monsieur *Pelletier* to go the more speedily wherever the Army is; we shall make use of his Industry, with concerning our selves in it, and 'twill be a Speedier and Safer Way to send you the Articles.

I have

I have it from a very good Hand that Monsieur *de Isola* is to go to *England* as soon as the Treaty is Sign'd. A Reason to send Monsieur *de Ruigny* thither also; for you can't send an Ambassador thither till after the Exchange of the Ratifications, and in the mean time, 'tis proper to take Care lest the House of *Austria* shou'd gain any Thing on that side. There is 600 Men more arm'd at *Ostend*. I was inform'd of it by one who came over with us, and din'd Aboard *de Ruyter*. The States after have caus'd Monsieur *d'Estrades* to be told they had declar'd to *Don Esteven de Gamarre*, they wou'd take whatever came out of the Ports of *England*, nevertheless gave Passes, and there are already 1200 arriv'd at two Passages.

From the Count d'Estrades to Monsr. de Lionne.
 July 28, 1667.

MR. *Coventry* departed the 12th of this Month, and did not arrive at *London* till the 17th, The 18th he wrote to my Lord *Hollis* he wou'd return the 22d, since which we have receiv'd no News of him. 'Tis true, the Wind has been still hard and contrary, so that we cannot yet think any thing else that has hinder'd the Signing of the Treaty. The King of *Denmark* has return'd us his Thanks. The States are not less content-ed with us; 'tis to be wish'd we may in the Sequel be contented with them. The great Progress of the King's Arms very much disquiets them. They are not the only People that envy us. In all likelihood the King will have no more declar'd Enemies this Year, and each will first try what a Negotiation may produce. In the mean time, his Majesty will make great Conquests in

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the *Low-Countries*; so that 'twill be very difficult afterwards to take from him the Pledges he will have in his Hands. If the War shou'd last next Year, all *Europe* will be involv'd in it, and we shall no more know when nor how Things will end. What's certain is, you will not want great and important Occupations. 'Tis the King of *Great Britain's* Interest to seek for Security in an Alliance with the King. The Question is to know whether the Natural Aversions of his People, and the Jealousy the Conquest of the *Low-Countries* will create in the Parliament, will permit him to follow his Inclinations; and even if he shou'd follow it, whether we shou'd get any thing by it? You know better than we that a King of *England* can do a great deal when he does what his Subjects wou'd have him, otherwise his Power is very limited, and he is often oblig'd, for this Consideration, to change Sentiments, and accommodate himself to those of his Parliament, without whose Assistance 'tis not in his Power to be at any considerable Expence. We doubt not, Sir, his Majesty will make all the Necessary Reflections before he determines any thing therein, and that you'll think well of it before you give him any Counsel what he should do in this Affair; since it seems absolutely necessary for him to resolve with whom to ally himself, now that all the Powers of *Europe* are deliberating of that Party those that govern them think the best and safest.

Mr. *Coventry* is arriv'd, we have not yet seen him; but he has sent us word he brings good News. All Letters from *London* assure us, the King has accepted of the Peace, so that we may very well sign it in two or three Days. We have a Pass for Monsieur *Pelletier*, to go to *Brussels*, and to be conducted to the King's Army. The Resident of *England* procur'd it. We

We just now came from Mr. *Coventry*, who has confirm'd to us that the King, his Master, has approv'd of all the Articles of the Peace, in the manner we agreed on before his Departure.

I *d'Estrades* wrote you the Marine Treaty was sign'd, and gives no Engagement on either Side; and I contributed to it, that *Sweden* might have an Obligation to the King, when I cou'd not hinder it?

I think I ought to employ my Friends to confer the Conclusion of that of the Renewal of the Alliance, at least till the Treaty of *Breda* be sign'd. To this end, before I left the *Hague*, I oblig'd the Cities of *North-Holland* to defer the Conclusion of it, and even the Principal Deputies made Excuses to go to their Cities about their private Affairs; and the Assembly is broke up for Eight days, in concert with *Monsieur de Wit*: So that Affairs are retarded. We shall in the mean time see how *Sweden* will manage her Self, with respect to the King, to govern our selves accordingly, and do the best we can.

TRANSLATION Of a Treaty of Peace and Alliance between CHARLES II. King of Great-Britain, and the United Provinces of the Low-Countries. Done at Breda, the 31st of July, 1667.

BE it Known to all and every one to whom it may belong, or in any wise appertain, That there having for some Years past arisen some Differences between the most Serene and most Potent Prince CHARLES the Second of that Name, King of Great-Britain, of the one Part; and the High and

and Mighty Lords the States-General of the United Provinces of the *Low-Countries*, of the other Part; which came to such a Pass, that not only they turn'd to an Open and Violent War; but also the most Serene and most Potent Prince and Lord *Lewis* the Fourteenth of that Name, the most Christian King of *France* and *Navarre*; and the most Serene and the most Potent Prince and Lord *Henry* the Third King of *Denmark* and *Norway*, on Account of their Alliance with the said Lords the States, were engag'd in it; By which a great Effusion of Christian Blood was occasion'd, to the great Damage both of the One and the Other. It happen'd at last, thro' the Divine Mercy, That the most Serene and most Potent Lord *Charles* King of *Sweden*, the *Goths* and *Vandals*, out of his Friendship and Affection for the said Kings and Lords; and further out of a Desire to Re-establish and Preserve the Welfare and Quiet of *Christendom* in General. To that end interposing his Friendly and Sincere Offices of Mediation they have all resolv'd on a Treaty of Peace. And the City of *Breda* being, with the Unanimous Consent of all Parties, appointed for the Meeting of the Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries, in Order to bring the Negotiation to the desir'd Issue. His said Majesty the King of *Sweden*, nam'd the *Sieur George Flemminge*, Baron of *Libelith*, Lord of *Nornaas* and *Lydinge*, Senator to his Majesty and his Kingdoms, and Counsellor of the Chancery; the *Sieur Christopher Delbique*, Burgrave, and Count of *Dbona*, Lord of *Caruinden*, *Schlowitten*, *Burgdorf*, *Stokenfels* and *Fischbach*, Mareschal de Camp, and Counsellor of War to his Majesty; and the *Sieur Peter Julius Coyet*, Lord of *Bengstboda* and *Linningebygardh*, Knight, Counsellor of State in his Majesty of *Sweden's* Chancery (who nevertheless, not long after his Arrival at the said Place departed this Life when he

he was busy'd about so Pious a Work) to be his Ambassadors Extraordinary, and they in the Name, and on the Part of his said Majesty, have employ'd all possible Diligence, Prudence, and Sincerity without ceasing. And the said Lord the King of *Great-Britain*, and the said Lords the States General, to forward so Laudable a Design, as Procuring the said Peace, also deputed for their Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaries; To wit, the *Sieur Denzil Hollis*, Baron of *Ifield*, &c. and one of His Majesty's Privy-Council, and the *Sieur Henry Coventry*, Son of the Right Honourable *Thomas* Baron of *Coventry*, in his Life-time Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, Gentleman of His Majesty's Bed-Chamber, Member of the House of Commons of *England*, and Commissary in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, on the one Part; and the *Sieurs* Deputies in the Assembly of the Lords States-General on the Part of the Provinces of *Guelthers*, *Holland*, *Zealand*, *Friseland*, *Groninguen*, and *Ommeland*; to wit, First, the *Sieur Jerom de Beverningue*, &c. The *Sieur Peter de Hubert*, Lord of *Rengerskercke*, *Everswaert*, Pensionary - Counsellor of the Lords States of *Zealand*, and *Mr. Allard Pierre Jong-ſtal*, First Counsellor and President of the Court of *Friseland*, by virtue of the full Powers granted the Fifth of *May* last, and deliver'd at the Beginning of the Negotiation; and also the *Sieur Adolph Henry Riperda*, Lord of *Beurse* and of *Heer lans, dam*, and the *Sieur Ludolph Tiarda* of *Sterkenburg*, Lord of *Weede*, *Surdyke*, *Nyencloster*, according to the Letters and Powers bearing Date after the 28th of the present Month of *July*, having been deputed for the most solemn Signing of the said Treaty on the other Part; so that after a proper Exchange of the full Powers, of which Copies are inserted Word, for Word at the Bottom of the present Instrument they have treated and agreed upon Peace,

Friend-

Friendship, and Confederacy in the manner following.

I.

Imprimis, **T**HAT from this Day there shall be a sincere, constant and inviolable Friendship, Alliance and Union between the most serene King of *Great-Britain*, and their High and Mightinesses the Lords States-General of the United Provinces of the *Low Countries*, their Countries, Provinces, and Towns which are under their Obedience without Distinction of Places and Situation, and between their Subjects and Inhabitants of what Quality soever they be.

II.

Items, That for the Future shall cease and be destroy'd all manner of Divisions, Hatred, Discord and War between the said Lord King, and the aforesaid Lords States-General and their Inhabitants and Subjects; and that on both Sides they shall Abstain from all manner of Pillage, Plunder, Damages, Injuries and Troubles, as well by Land as by Sea and Rivers, every where and principally in their reciprocal Countries, Seigniories, Towns, Governments of what Condition soever they be.

III.

Items, Shall be forgotten on both Sides all Offences, Damages, and Losses which the said Lord King and his Subjects, and the said Lords States, and theirs have suffer'd during this War, or before, in what Time soever, by whatever Subject, or under whatsoever Pretence it may be; and the Remembrance of 'em, shall be intirely effac'd, as if it had never happen'd; but to the End also that the aforesaid Peace, Friendship, and Confederacy may be

be built upon a solid and lasting Foundation ; and that from this Day all Occasions of New Differences and Discords may be cut off, 'Tis further agreed, That each of the aforesaid Parties shall hold and possess for the Time to come, in full Right of Sovereignty, Propriety, and Possession, all and such Countries, Isles, Towns, Forts, Places and Colonies, and so many as each of them, whether during this War, or before, in what Time soever it be, have taken and kept from the others by force of Arms, and in what other manner soever ; and that as they enjoy'd and possess'd them the 10th of May last, none of the said Places excepted.

IV.

Item, That in like manner all the Vessels, with their Furniture and Merchandize, and all the Moveable Goods, that during this War or before, at what time soever it be, are fallen into the Power of one or other of the Parties, or of their Subjects, shall remain without any Recompence or Restitution to the Occupants : So that every body shall continue the Proprietor and Possessor for ever of all that he shall be possess'd of, and this without any Controversy of Place, Time and Things.

V.

Item, That all Actions and Demands whatever, or in what manner soever they be, and by vertue of whatsoever Treaty of Peace or Alliance before made, and particularly also by the Fifteenth Article of that in the Year 1662, may be confin'd, limited and reserv'd, and which the said Lord King and the said Lords States-General, or their Subjects, might or would against one another, enter, make or move, or which with respect to some Effects and Goods unthought of during this

this War, or before or after the aforesaid Treaty of 1662, even to the Day that the present Confederacy shall begin, shall be forgotten, abrogated, and destroy'd, as the said Lord King, and the said Lords States-General have declar'd, and do by these Presents declare for them and their Successors, who by vertue of these Presents renounce them entirely for ever, as they do hereby renounce them, that no Difference may arise for the time to come.

VI.

And in case that either Parties after the 10th Day of *May* Old Stile, express'd above in the third Article, or after the concluding the Peace, or after the Signing of the present Treaty of Confederacy, either of the Parties shall take from the other, or occupy any Countries, Isles, Towns, Forts, Colonies, or other Places, they shall immediately without any Distinction of Time or Place, return and restore them honestly to each in the same Condition which they then shall be found, provided the Conclusion of the Peace shall have been signify'd in the said Countries.

VII.

But hereafter to prevent all manner of Occasion of Variances and Differences which sometimes arise upon account of Restitution or Liquidations concerning Ships, Merchandize, and other moveable Effects, that both Parties or one of them might pretend to have been taken after the Peace made and perfected or occupy'd in Places and Countries far off, and this before the Peace was known there; 'Tis agreed that such Ships, Merchandize, and other moveable Effects, which may be taken after the Conclusion and Publication of the present Instrument of Peace in the Channel, and in the North-

North-Sea within the time of Twelve days, and from the Channel to Cape St. Vincent within Six Weeks, and from the said Cape to the Equinoctial Line as well in the Ocean and *Mediterranean* Sea as elsewhere within Six Months, and from and beyond the said Line throughout the World within Eight Months, without any Exception or other Distinction of Times or Places, and without making Restitution or Recompence, shall be and remain to the Advantage of those that have taken them.

VIII.

Item, It is concluded, that under the said Renunciations and Stipulations shall be also comprehended all Sorts of Letters of Reprizal, Mart, and Contre-Mart as they are call'd, as well General as Particular; and all other such kind of Letters, 'by vertue of which Hostility was often committed, and that by the Publick Authority of the present Alliance they shall on both Sides be call'd in and revok'd: And in case that notwithstanding this, any one of the two Nations after such a Revocation under Pretence and by vertue of such Letters or Commissions, (which after the Peace made are revok'd) and after the time limited in the Seventh Article above, be found to have committed some new Act of Hostility, he shall be look'd upon as a Disturber of the Publick Quiet, punish'd according to the Law of Nations, besides the Restitution of the whole Effects taken, and full Satisfaction for the Damages suffer'd, notwithstanding all Clauses to the contrary that may be inserted in the said Letters above revok'd.

IX.

Item, And as in Places far off, as *Africk* and *America*, and chiefly in *Guinea*, some Protestation, Declaration, and the like Writings, may have been
given

given and publish'd in the Name of the Sovereigns on both Sides, and contrary to the Liberty of Commerce and Navigation. It is likewise agreed, That such Protestations, Declarations, and such Writings shall be void and reputed for the time to come as null and void ; and that every one of the two Parties, and their Inhabitants and Subjects shall enjoy the same Liberty of Commerce and Navigation as well in *Africa* as *America*, which they enjoy'd, or in right enjoy according to Law, at the time of Signing the Treaty of 1662.

X.

Item, That all Prisoners on both Sides of whatsoever State or Quality they are, without any exception, shall be set at Liberty, without paying all the Debts contracted for their Maintenance, or other lawful Occasions.

XL

Item, That the said Lord King, and the said Lords States-General shall remain confederate Friends, united and bound by a particular Friendship to defend the Rights and Immunities of their Subjects reciprocally against whoever shall attempt to disturb the Peace of either State by Sea or Land, and whoever shall withdraw himself from under the Authority of either, shall be declar'd a Publick Enemy to both States.

XII.

Item, That the said Lord King, and the said Lords States-General shall not do, nor treat of, nor attempt any thing one against the other, nor the Subjects of one against the Subjects of the other, in any Places, Seas, Havens, Districts, Bays, and Rivers upon any occasion whatsoever, and that neither one nor the other, nor the Subjects of one Part or the

the other shall give or discover any Aid, Counsel or Favour, nor suffer it any way to be done, negotiated or undertaken by any Person whatsoever to the Damage or Disadvantage of either, or of their Subjects reciprocally ; but both Parties shall oppose and hinder all and every one continuing under the Obedience of either, to undertake, do, treat of, or attempt any thing against them.

XIII.

Item, That neither the aforesaid Lord King, nor the aforesaid Republick, nor any of their Subjects, Inhabitants, or others that reside or live under their Jurisdiction, shall maintain or assist with Council or Favour Rebels against either ; but shall positively hinder any such Rebels from having any Aid or Assistance from any of their Subjects, Inhabitants or others living within their Jurisdiction, and this whether by Sea or Land ; and that they shall not furnish them with Troops, Ships, Arms, Warlike-Stores or other Contraband Merchandize, nor also any Money or Provisions, but they shall be adjudg'd to him or them against whom such Contravention is made and confiscated to his or their Advantage ; to wit, Ships, Arms, Warlike-Stores, or other Contraband Merchandize ; together with the Money and Provisions furnish'd against the Contents of this Article : And they who know of, or voluntary have done or undertaken any thing contrary to this said Article, shall be declar'd Enemies to both Parties, and shall be punish'd in the Places where the Offence is committed, as Traitors to the State ; and the specifying the Merchandize that shall be reputed to be Contraband, shall be agreed upon hereafter.

XIV.

Item, That the said Lord King, and the said Lords States-General, shall reciprocally, sincerely and truly

ly assist each other against the Rebels of either, as well by Sea as by Land; and as there shall be need of Troops and Ships of such a Quantity and Bigness, and in such manner, and upon such Conditions as shall be afterwards agreed upon according as the Necessity and Conjecture shall require on either Side; all nevertheless at the Expence and Charge of him that desires Assistance.

XV.

Item, That neither the aforesaid Lord King, nor the said Lords States-General, or their Subjects, Inhabitants or others, shall support or assist with Counsel or Favour, the Rebels of either; but shall expressly hinder Aid or Assistance to be given to such Rebels by any of their Subjects, Inhabitants, or others, in their Countries, Provinces, Havens, Bays or Territories, nor shall any of them within their said Signories, Countries, Provinces, Havens, Bays or Territories, grant, give, or administer any Aid, Counsel, Dwelling, Soldiers, Ships, Money, Arms, Warlike-Stores or Provisions; nor consent or permit on either Part, that any Person in their Signories, Provinces, Countries, Havens, Bays or Territories, shall give, grant or furnish to such Rebels or Fugitives any Aid, Counsel, Dwelling, Favour, Arms, Ammunition, Soldiers, Ships, Money or Provisions, but shall expressly hinder its being done.

XVI.

Item, That when either of the Parties shall have made known and shall have declar'd to the other by publick and authentick Letters, that such and such Person or Persons have been and are there, Rebel or Rebels, Fugitive or Fugitives, and that he or they receive them into their Signories, Jurisdiction, Country, Havens, Territories, or any of them, or that they dwell there, keep themselves conceal'd, or are fled

fled thither ; then *That* such of the Parties who shall have receiv'd such Letters, or to whom this shall be signify'd, shall be oblig'd within the Term of twenty eight Days after, to be accounted from the Day that the said Notification shall be made, to injoin and command the said Rebel or Rebels, Fugitive or Fugitives, to depart and withdraw from the Jurisdiction of their Provinces, Countries, and from every of them ; and that if any one of the said Enemies, Rebels or Fugitives, shall not go away and withdraw within the Term of Fifteen Days to be accounted from the Day that such Injunction or such Commandment shall be given them, they shall every one be punish'd with Death, and Confiscation of their Lands and Estates.

XVII.

Item, That no Rebel of the aforesaid Lord King of *Great Britain*, shall be receiv'd into any Castle, Town, Borough, Haven, Country, or other Place, whether they be priviledg'd, or not, which any Person whatsoever, of whatsoever Condition or Quality they are, might or shall possess within the Sovereignty or Obedience of the *United-Provinces* under whatsoever Authority or Title, and no Person of whatsoever Condition or Quality he be, shall permit or encourage, their being receiv'd or inhabiting there ; Nor shall the said Lords the States-General permit or suffer any Person of whatsoever Condition or Quality they be, to give the said Rebels any Ship, Soldiers, Money, Provisions, or any other Manner of Aid, Counsel or Favour, but shall strictly and publickly prevent its being done. And in case that any Person or Persons of whatsoever Condition and Quality under the Obedience of the *United-Provinces*, shall do or commit any thing against what is agreed on above, all and every of these Persons shall lose for their Lives the Castles, Towns,

Boroughs, Lands and other Places, which they, or any of them should have at that time, which shall be confiscated, whatsoever Right or Title they may pretend to have thereunto. In like manner any Rebel of the States-General of the *United-Provinces*, shall not be receiv'd or suffer'd to dwell, or converse in the Castles, Towns, Sea-Ports and other Places, or in any of them, privileg'd or not privileg'd, that any Person of whatsoever Condition and Quality he be, possess or shall possess, by whatever Right or Title it may be, in the Kingdoms and Dominions of the said Lord King of *Great-Britain*: And the said Lord King shall not permit, suffer nor consent, nor any Person of whatever Condition he be in the aforesaid Places, give or grant the said Rebels any Ships, Soldiers, Money, Provisions, or any manner of Assistance, Counsel or Favour, but shall prevent and forbid it strictly, publicly, and to effect. And in case that any of the Subjects of the said Lord or King, or any one being under his Dominion, shall act contrary or attempt any thing against this present Treaty, every Person who shall do it shall lose in like manner for his Life, and shall thereupon be confiscated of the Castles, Towns, Boroughs, Lands, and other Places, which he or they have or shall possess notwithstanding any Right, Title or Pretence they may have thereunto.

XVIII.

Item, That the said Lord King of *Great-Britain*, and his Subjects, and all the Inhabitants in His Majesty's Dominions; as also the aforesaid *United-Provinces*, and their Subjects and Inhabitants, of whatsoever State and Condition they are, shall be oblig'd to treat one another in every respect civilly and friendly, that they may by Sea or Land come, frequent, and dwell freely and securely, as many

as desire it, in the Countries, Cities, Towns wall'd or not wall'd, fortify'd or not fortify'd, which are in their Dominions reciprocally in all *Europe*, and buy there, without any hindrance, Provisions as much as they shall have occasion for, and also traffick and negotiate in all Sorts of Merchandize as they think fit, Importing or Exporting them, paying only the Customs that are there settled. Saving nevertheless, all the Statutes and Laws of both Dominions: And that their Subjects and Inhabitants reciprocally may carry on their Trade in the Countries and Dominions of both Nations, they shall not hereafter be oblig'd to pay greater Charges, Impositions, Customs and other Duties than proportionable to other Strangers who trade there.

XIX.

Item, That the Ships and Vessels of the *United-Provinces*, as well Men of War as Merchant Ships, which are fitted out to repel the Forces of the Enemy, and others, which shall meet in the *Britannick* Seas any Ship of War of the said King of *Great-Britain* shall Strike the Flag and Lower the Sail; as it has formerly been practis'd.

XX.

Item, That for the greater Liberty of Trade and Navigation, they have agreed and concluded, That neither the said King, nor the said States-General, shall receive nor permit their Subjects to receive into their Sea-ports, Towns and Places reciprocally, Pirates and Privateers on both Sides, nor permit them to stay there, nor give them Relief or Provisions, but shall use their Endeavours that the said Pirates and Privateers their Accomplices and Adherents, to deter others, shall be prosecuted, taken and punish'd as they deserve, and all the Ships, Merchandize, and Money taken by them in Piracy

ting and carried into the Sea-ports under the Dominion of either Party which shall be in being, tho' they be sold, shall be restor'd to the right Owners, or to those, who having the Charge of 'em, shall reclaim them; Provided the Right of the Proprietors be made out to the Admiralty.

XXI.

Item, It shall not be permitted the Subjects of the said King, nor the Inhabitants of the Kingdoms and Countries of his Dominion, nor the Inhabitants and Subjects of the *United-Provinces* to commit any Hostility nor Violence one against the other by Sea or Land, under any Pretence whatsoever. And also consequently it shall not be permitted the said Subjects and Inhabitants to take from any Prince or State with which one of the Confederates shall have some Difference or open War, any Letters Pattent call'd Commissions of Reprizals, and much less to occasion by vertue of the said Letters, any Trouble or Damage to one of the Confederates. Neither shall it be permitted Strangers who will go to Sea with Letters of Reprisal, and who are not Subjects of either of the Confederates, but who have their Commissions from some other Princes or States to equip their Ships in the Sea-ports of one or other of the aforesaid Confederates, and to sell there the Things which they have taken, to redeem them, or in any manner whatsoever exchange them, whether they are Ships, Merchandize. or any other Commodities of whatsoever Nature they are; nor shall they be permitted to buy any Provisions, but such of which they have an absolute Want of, to go to the Sea-ports of the Prince of whom they have got their Commissions; and if by Accident any Subjects of his Majesty, or of the aforesaid States-General, whether by Permutation or
Exchange,

Exchange, or by any other manner whatsoever, have had any Ship or Merchandize of either of their Subjects, the aforesaid Subjects shall in this case be oblig'd to yield up, without any delay, the said Ship, or the said Goods or Merchandize to the Proprietors, and this without any Recompence or Restitution of the Money given or promis'd for the said Effects, provided that they justify it before His Majesty's Council, or before the said Lords States-General that they are the Proprietors.

XXII.

Item, If the said Lord King of *Great-Britain*, or the said Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces* of the *Low-Countries*, contract any Alliance, Friendship, Confederacy, and Ingagement with any body, whether Kings, Republicks, Princes, or States; both the Parties with their Dominions, or each of them shall be comprehended therein: Provided they are willing, and shall inform each other of such Treaty, Friendship, and Confederacy.

XXIII.

Item, If it shall happen during this Alliance, Friendship, and Commerce, that any of the Subjects or Inhabitants of either Parties attempt any thing by Sea, by Land, or Rivers against this Alliance, the said Friendship, Alliance, and Commerce, shall not nevertheless for that be interrupted or broken off between the two Nations; but shall continue in full force and virtue: and either shall only punish those that have acted contrary, and no others; and they shall cause Right to be done, and Satisfaction given to those

who are found interested by those who by Land, by Sea, or Rivers, shall have committed any thing against the said Alliance, whether in any Part of Europe, or in any other Place within the Streights of Gibraltar, or in America, or upon the Coasts of Africa, or in any Countries, Isles, Seas, Rivers, Bays, or other Places, on this Side the Cape of Good-Hope, within the Term of a Year and a Day after they shall require Justice to be done; but within the Term of Eighteen Months, with respect to all the Places that are beyond the Cape of Good-Hope. But if the Offenders do not appear and refuse to submit themselves to Justice, or to give Satisfaction within either of the Spaces of Time above limited, according to the Distance of Places; the aforesaid Offenders shall be declar'd Enemies to both, and their Goods, Means and all their Revenues shall be publickly sold to indemnify and make sutable Satisfaction for the Damage by them done; and besides, they shall, if they fall into the Power of either Party, be liable to the Punishment they have deserv'd, according to the Nature of their Crimes.

XXIV.

Item, That all the Subjects of the said Lord King, who shall be under his Dominion may freely and safely come into the *United-Provinces*, and into every of their Dominions in Europe, and pass and travel by Water or by Land, and through all their Places, Towns and Fortresses which are in the Jurisdiction of their Dominion within the said *United-Provinces*, or elsewhere in Europe, and there do their Business whether by themselves or by their Merchants, Factors or Servants arm'd, or without Arms; but arm'd (not a greater Number than Forty at a time) as well with, as without

out Merchandize, in whatsoever Place that they would go to. The Subjects and Inhabitants of the *United-Provinces* shall enjoy also the same Liberty with regard to the Dominions of the aforesaid Lord King in *Europe*; upon condition that every one of both Sides shall behave themselves in Commerce and Trading according to the Laws and Statutes of both States.

XXV.

Item, If the Merchant-Ships of either Subjects should be driven by any Tempests, Pirates, or other Necessity, and come and enter into the Sea-Ports under the Dominion of either Parties, they may resort freely and without hindrance, with their Ships and Merchandize, without paying any Custom or other Duties; Provided nevertheless, that they do not unload or sell them, or offer them to Sale, and shall not be subject to any Search; Provided only that they do not take into their Ships either Persons or Merchandize; or that they do not do any thing against the Laws, Ordinances or Customs of the Places in the Sea-Ports which they shall enter as hath been said.

XXVI.

Item, That the Merchants, Masters of Vessels, Pilots or Mariners, or their Ships, Goods and Merchandize of the one may not be detain'd or stop't in the Countries, Sea-Ports, Roads or Rivers of the other, by vertue of a General or Special Order, or by vertue of any other Custom, at least, unless the most pressing Necessity requires it; and they do not make a proper Recompence. Upon Condition always that it be not derogatory to the Seizures and Stoppings which are according to Right,

Right, and the Laws of their Dominions, reciprocally.

XXVII.

Item, That the Merchants on both Sides, their Factors and Servants, as also the Masters of Vessels, and other Seamen, as well in going as returning with their Ships by Sea and Rivers, as also into the Sea-ports of both Nations, or ashore, to defend themselves and their Merchandize, may for their Defence carry all Sorts of Arms offensive and defensive, and make use of them, and being come into their Inn or Lodging, are to put their Arms aside till they return to their Ships to sail.

XXVIII.

Item, That the Men of War and Convoys meeting at Sea any Ship, or Merchant-Ship belonging to either of their Subjects or Inhabitants, and which keep the same Course, or go the same Voyage are to be convoy'd and defended against all and every one that would attack and offer them Violence.

XXIX.

Item, If one, or many Ships belonging to the Subjects or Inhabitants of either Party, or of some neutral Persons happen to be taken in either's Sea-Ports by a Third Person, who shall not be Subject or Inhabitant of any one of the Parties, those in whose Sea-Ports or Dominions the said Ships shall be taken, shall be bound with the other Party to contribute what they can that the said Ships or Vessels shall be pursu'd and retaken, and restor'd to the Proprietors of them; but then it shall be
all

all at the Charge of the Proprietors, or those that have an Interest therein.

XXX.

Item, That Custom-House Officers, and other the like Officers, shall regulate themselves according to the Tenour of the Laws of the Country of both Parties, and shall not exact any greater Duties than those set down in their Commission and Instructions.

XXXI.

Item, If the Subjects of the one receives any Damage by the Subjects of the other Party, against the Articles of the present Alliance or Common Right, there shall not nevertheless be granted any Letter of Reprisal, or of Mart and Contre-Mart, before Justice has been demanded; but if Justice be refus'd them, or a long time delay'd, then the aforesaid Lord King, and the aforesaid States-General or their Ministers, whose Subjects and Inhabitants shall have receiv'd the Damage or Wrong by the Judges (as is abovesaid) who shall delay or refuse Justice, shall pursue the Affair publickly, that the Difference may be ended in a friendly manner, or by the usual Proceedings of Law; but if the Affair be nevertheless still delay'd a longer time, and that Right nor Satisfaction be not done in the Space of three Months after the Request shall have been made, Letters of Reprisal or Mart or Contre-mart may then be granted.

XXXII.

Item, It is agreed, That if it happens (which God forbid) that the Differences formerly decided

ded between the said Lord King, and the said Lords States-General shall be renew'd and turn'd to an open War; the Ships, Merchandize and all manner of Moveable Effects of both Parties, which shall be found in the Sea-Ports, and under the Dominion of the adverse Party, shall be by no Means confiscated nor damag'd; but there shall be granted to the Subjects of both Parties the Term of Six whole Months, during which Time they may transport the said Effects where they please.

XXXIII.

Item, That those that receive Letters or Commissions of one of the Parties, before receiving them, shall give before the Judge good and sufficient Security, by Persons not concern'd or interested in any Part of the said Ship, that they shall not do any Damage or Prejudice to the Subjects and Inhabitants of one another.

XXXIV.

Item, That it is agreed and consented, That it shall be permitted to the Subjects of one another to have free Access at all times into the Sea-Ports reciprocally; and that it shall be lawful to stop there, and to depart not only with their Merchandize, and their Ships loaden, but also with Ships of War, whether they belong to the said Lord King or to the Lords States-General; or those that have receiv'd special Commissions, whether they enter there by Necessity, Tempest or Danger of the Sea, or to Refit or Caulk their Ship, or to Buy Provisions; provided nevertheless that they do not exceed the Number of Eight, and that they enter voluntarily, and that they continue there no longer than is necessary to fit out their Ships, to buy Provisions

vifions and other Things which they want ; and if it happens that a greater Number of Ships desire to enter there, they may not without having first obtain'd Leave of those, or him to whom the said Sea-Ports belong at least, unless they have been forc'd by Tempest or Violence, or other Necessity, to shun the Danger of the Sea ; this hapning so, they shall make known to the Governour or chief Magistrate of the Place the Cause of their Arrival, and shall stay there as long as the said Governour or chief Magistrate will permit, and shall during their Stay there, not attempt any thing to the Prejudice of the said Place.

XXXV.

Item, It is agreed and concluded, That the two Parties shall observe and execute the present Treaty truly and constantly, and every Thing that is therein comprehended and contain'd truly and constantly, and shall cause it to be observ'd by their Subjects and Inhabitants on both Sides.

XXXVI.

Item, For the greater Assurance and Firmness, that the aforesaid Treaty and Confederacy shall be truly and sincerely executed of the Part of the Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces*, and of their Subjects, it is agreed, as indeed the said Lords States-General do ingage and bind themselves by these Presents, That all and every of those, They, or the States of the Provinces particularly shall choose, make and appoint at any time whatsoever, for Captain-General, or Stateholder, or for Admiral of the Fleets, Ships, or Forces at Sea, shall be bound and oblig'd to confirm the present Treaty and the Articles of it by Oath, and shall promise
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to observe it religiously, and as far as in them lyes, will cause them to be observ'd, and carefully executed by others.

XXXVII.

Item, In this present Treaty of Peace shall be comprehended those which, before the Ratification shall be made, or within six Months after, shall be nominated by unanimous Consent; and as in the mean time the Parties contracting, thankfully acknowledge the sincere Offers and indefatigable Diligence, by which the most serene King of *Sweden* has by his Assistance and Mediation, with the Blessing and Assistance of God, brought this good Work to the wish'd-for End; the said Parties contracting to testify their reciprocal Satisfaction, have with common consent, concluded and agreed, That his said *Swedish* Majesty, with all his Kingdoms, Signories, Provinces and Rights, shall be comprehended in this Treaty, and in this present Instrument of Peace in the best Manner.

XXXVIII.

Item, It is agreed, resolv'd, and concluded upon, That the present Treaty and every Thing therein contain'd, shall by the said Lord King of *Great-Britain*, and by the said Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces* of the *Low-Countries*, be approv'd and ratify'd by their Letters Patents respectively, and confirm'd under their Great Seal, in the most proper and authentick Form, and the Instruments exchange'd on both Sides within the Term of four Weeks next following, or sooner, if it can be done; And the said Treaty and Alliance shall be after the Exchange of the Instruments, publish'd in the Places, and in the accustomed

med Manner. And for the greater Security of every Thing that is abovemention'd, We the aforesaid Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries of His Majesty of *Great-Britain*, have with the Ambassadors extraordinary and Mediators sign'd the present Instrument of Peace, and confirm'd it with our Seal. Done at *Breda*, the 31st of *July* 1667, and is Sign'd,

(LS) *George Flemming.* (LS) *Holles.*
(LS) *Christ. Delphicus.* (LS) *Hen. Coventry.*

In Dona.

• *Separate Article.*

IF in Case any Carpets, Tapestry, Pictures, or any other Moveables, Jewels, Rings, Diamonds, or any other Moveable Effects belonging to the King of *Great-Britain*, shall be found at this Time, or hereafter, in Possession of the States-General, or any of their Subjects, the aforesaid Lords States promise not to protect in any Manner the Possessors of any Moveable Effects belonging to the said Lord King; which Effects shall be taken away from them, so that they do not do any Wrong nor Injustice to those that are found aggriev'd. And the aforesaid Lords States, promise as much as possibly they can, to proceed summarily in this Affair without tying themselves up to the Forms and Manner of Proceeding in Law; but that Right shall be done, so that as much as may be His Majesty shall be contented.

Item, If any Person is found Guilty of the Abominable Murther committed upon the Person of
the

the deceas'd King CHARLES the First of happy Memory, and that they are lawfully accus'd, convicted and condemn'd, and they are found under the Dominion of the said Lords States-General, so that the said States, or any one of their Officers shall have Knowledge of it, or that they shall be inform'd of it; they shall be apprehended, put into Prison, and sent bound to *England*, deliver'd into the Hands of him who shall for this Purpose be appointed by His *Britannick* Majesty to take care of them and send them to *England*. For the greater Confirmation of all, and that the present Separate Articles are word for word the same Contents with those that had been concluded at *Whitehall* the 4th of *September* Old Stile, and the 14th New Stile, in the Year 1662, and that they ought to be in full Force, as well observ'd as all those which are contain'd in the principal Treaty; We the Ambassadors Extraordinary and the Plenipotentiaries of His said Majesty King of *England*, have sign'd and put our Seal. Done at *Breda*.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades, and Monsieur Courtin :
August 5, 1667.*

YOUR Dispatch of the 28th oblig'd me to no other Answer, than to acquaint you, that some of the Friends of Monsi. *d'Estrades* have not kept his Secret, with regard to the diligent Attempts which he has made to obstruct the Conclusion of the *Swedish Treaty* ; for Monsi. *van Beuningen* talk'd to me of it in raillery, as of an Affair which we would have hindered.

The King desires that you would inform the States, that his Majesty is resolv'd to restore to them the *Isles of Tabago and St. Eustachius*, and the Colony of *Canmerons* ; and on the morrow I shall furnish Monsi. *van Beuningen* with the Expeditions, that is to say, the Orders for those who command in them Places, of which I shall also send you the Duplicates by the next Post.

Presupposing the Peace to be sign'd before the end of the last Month, I begin my Compliments to you on it, and to testifie the extream Joy which I feel, that two of my dearest Friends have had the good Fortune to acquire this new Glory in the World, and deserve so highly of his Majesty.

The Army approaching you, and removing farther from hence, I shall rather ask News of you concerning it, than be able to give you any.

A Party of the Garrison of *Lisle* have taken my Courier *Heron*, who was sent to me from *Donay*. Tho' I don't know whether *Heron* could get opportunity to throw away his Dispatch, yet I doubt not in the least, whether it be taken or not, but that the Marquess of *Castel Roderigo* will build a thousand Chimera's on the Interpretation of this Packet, and thence expect to find sufficient Materials to injure us with every Prince and Potentate for a Year's time from the date hereof ;

since even before there was any one really taken, he, in his usual Manner, publish'd at *Collen Books of Monsieur le Tellier* to me, of which he pretended to have the Originals; but shew'd them to none but those who before-hand said, they did not know the *Sieur le Tellier's* hand. You may, if you please, watch his Artifices; but I can assure you, the King afterwards sending me a Duplicate of *Heron's* Dispatch, that I don't find in it any one word which concerns the States, nor that they are even once nam'd in it.

I send you a Pass for the Grand Marshal of *Poland's* Lady, who is coming for *France* thro' *Holland*, and entreat you to hand it to her in her Passage.

*Memorial presented by the Count D'Estrades
to the States-General of the United-
Provinces : August 6, 1667.*

THE Count *d'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, represents to your Lordships, that Complaints having been made to the King his Master, of a Sentence of Confiscation given by the College of the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, on the 17th of *July* last, of a *French* Merchant Ship with all its Equipage, nam'd the *Catherine of St. John*, his Majesty has given him order, in his Name, to ask your Lordships on what Motives the said Admiralty confiscated the said Vessel, and all that was in it; because, that if it was on pretext that the Placarts of your Lordships have forbidden the Whale-Fishery, as the said Sentence imports, the said Vessel being *French*, and not at all subjected to the Observation of the said Placarts, which extend to none but those under the Government of your Lordships, ought not to have been confiscated on that Foundation, which is void, and cannot be defended; and it not appearing to his Majesty, that, besides that, there was the least room for that Confiscation, he has most expressly order'd

order'd his said Ambassador Extraordinary incessantly (till it be done) to demand the Restitution of the said confiscated Vessel; and what was in it, as having been treated contrary to the Law of Nations, and the Tenour of the Treaty of 1662, which gave liberty to *French* Ships to bring Merchandizes to, and carry them from your Lordships Ports; or otherwise to know of them the Motives which engag'd the said Admiralty of *Amsterdam* to Confiscate the said Vessel, in order afterward to give an Account of it to his Majesty, who is very much dissatisfy'd with a Procedure so Extraordinary, as that with regard to his Subjects, by which the Proprietor of the said Ship receives a very considerable Damage.

Given at the *Hague*, *August 6*, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King :
August 7, 1667.

Monsieur *Pelletier*, Counsellor in your Parliament of *Paris*, is so well inform'd of all that pass'd in our Negotiation, and so capable of giving your Majesty an Account of it, that 'tis needless for us to add any thing to that, which he will have the Honour to represent to you. The three Treaties of Peace were sign'd yesterday Night at the same time, and the Ambassadors of *England*, and the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States have publickly acknowledg'd and declar'd, that they are accountable for this so great Blessing, to the Care which your Majesty was pleas'd to take, to make them enjoy it.

In the drawing up of the Articles, we follow'd the Orders prescrib'd by our Instructions, and contain'd in the Dispatches which we afterwards receiv'd. As for the Form, either in the Preface, or the Disposition of the said Articles, and in the Expression which we have us'd, 'twas necessary to accommodate our selves to

what the Mediators and the Ambassadors of *England* desir'd of us; these sorts of Affairs are not otherwise manageable, and we believ'd we had discharg'd our Duty, by advancing the Conclusion of the Treaty, on such conditions as it has pleas'd your Majesty to permit us to sign. But if there is any thing in it which wants explaining, we most humbly supplicate your Majesty to do us the Favour to hear what *Mons. Pelletier* shall say to you on that regard, and to believe that if we have not been happy enough to succeed well, it has not been for want of Zeal and Application to execute your Commands.

Mr. Coventry has deliver'd us a Letter from the King his Master, by which he entreats us to use our Interest for the return of *Kivit*, who is the Brother-in-Law of *Tromp*, and one of those which had an Understanding with *Buat*. We have communicated this Letter to the Plenipotentiaries of the States, and have press'd them to contribute whatever depended on them, to give this Satisfaction to the King of *Great Britain*. They have all three of them told us in private, that if it were in their Power, they would do it with Joy; that they were perswaded that *Kivit* had no other Designs than those of facilitating the Peace; but that he has potent Enemies, which would render his Restoration difficult; that yet they would write to their Principals. According to all appearances, the Answer which they will receive will not be favourable; *Mons. de Wit*, who is his Enemy, will make it a Point of honour to hinder his Return, which would be so much the easier, by reason his Estate is confiscated to the City of *Rotterdam*.

The *English* Ambassadors, whilst the Pen is in our Hand, tell us in Presence of the Mediators, that the King their Master has charg'd them earnestly to entreat your Majesty on his Account, to extend your Grace to the Marquis *de Flammarin*, and to assure you, that 'tis not possible for the King of *Great Britain* to receive a Testimony of your Friendship, which would more sensibly touch him; that he loves the *Sieur de Flammarin*,

Flammarin, that he is oblig'd to him for his Service in the Battel fought the first Year of the War, before your Majesty resolv'd on the assisting of the States; that you would consider besides, that he was not the Author of the Quarrel which has made him fall into the unhappy Condition in which he has been for six Years; and that he thinks his Punishment has been both long and severe enough, to serve for a great Example, and secure the future Execution of your Edicts.

The Plenipotentiaries of the States then declar'd, that they had receiv'd Order from their Masters, most humbly to supplicate your Majesty to grant the like Grace to *Messieurs de la Frette*, who expos'd their Lives on very dangerous Occasions in defence of the common Cause; and that by serving on Board the States Ships, since your Majesty declar'd War against the King of *Great Britain*, they seem'd to have fall'n in with their Duty, and doubly deserv'd that your Majesty should please to pardon them.

To avoid the Incidents which might have happen'd on the Exchange of the Ratifications, the *English* Ambassadors have pray'd us to draw up a Project. We thought it better to keep to that of the Treaty of the *Pyrenees*, and they have accepted it. They desire that your Majesty would cause it to be expedited in *Latin*, according to the Translation which has been made; their Reason is, that the ordinary Treaties betwixt your Majesty and the King of *Great Britain* being made in *French*, 'twas proper the Ratification should be in the same Language; but it being agreed in this Assembly, by reason of the different Nations, to make use of the *Latin* Tongue, there seems to be a sort of Necessity of employing it also in the Act which ratifies all that is treated betwixt us. Your Majesty is free to use which you please, for we are not ty'd to any; and in what manner soever the Ratification be expedited, provided the essential Clauses are in it, the Exchange will be made without difficulty. The *Danes*, for the greater certainty, would take four Weeks to deliver it in; but

there is added, *Or sooner if it can be done*, because they don't doubt of having it in twenty Days.

We are all agreed that the Publication of the Peace shall be made at the *Hague*, two Days, counting from that on which the Post goes off, after the said Exchange is made. It concerns your Majesty's Subjects that this be punctually executed, because there will be no Restitution of Captures made in certain limited Times from the Day of this Solemnity.

The Mediators have presented to us a Writing, by which they propose to us the Compréhension by name of the Electors of *Brandenburg*, and *Palatine*, the Duke of *Holstein-Gottorp*, and the *Hanse-Towns*: We excus'd our selves, in concert with the Plenipotentiaries of *Denmark* and the States, withal assuring the Mediators that the Nomination was customarily made by particular Declarations, as was practis'd at the Execution of the last Article of the Treaty of *Munster*. *Spanheim* solicited this Nomination with the most pressing Instances on the Part of the Elector *Palatine*, even so openly declaring that he came to this City on purpose, tho' the Letters of Credence which he two Months since presented to all the Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries in this Assembly, testify'd the contrary; that Elector writing, that he sent *Courtin* to me, on some Difficulties which concern'd the arbitrary Sentence pronounc'd at *Heilbron*. This affected desire of a thing in which he neither has, nor ever cou' have any Interest, a little surpriz'd those who don't know the Humour of the Prince. We gave his Envoy to understand, that if the Request turn'd only on *France*, that at any time when his Master wou'd supplicate your Majesty to mention him, you wou'd willingly do it; that if we shou'd name any one, he shou'd be comprehended in the List, since there was no difficulty as to his Rank: But that those which we should meet with on account of that of many other Princes, which we shou'd be engag'd to mention, wou'd oblige us to avoid exposing our selves to the hazard of giving

giving Reason to most of the Friends and Allies of your Majesty to complain of us. These Reasons serv'd for a Pretext, not to alledge those which Monsieur de Lionne let us know that he had represented to your Majesty, when he answer'd us, that he approv'd the Overture which we made, of keeping to the Point of the Expedient hit on in the Assembly of *Munster*.

Monsieur *Brand* is this Day arriv'd, to entreat us, on the part of the Elector of *Brandenburg*, to manage Matters so with your Majesty that he be nam'd by a particular Declaration, as comprehended in the Peace. We have answer'd him, that we would not fail to give you an Account of his Request to us, and have also gave him Hopes that your Majesty will readily yield to the Elector his Master this Evidence of your Amity: The King of *Great Britain*, that of *Denmark*, and the States have given their Consent to this Nomination, so that it looks as tho' your Majesty could not refuse yours too.

Monsieur *Beverning* is this Moment come to tell us, that the States Resident at *Brussels* arriv'd Post in this City Yesterday Night, to propose two Things to him: The First, That the States, on Pretence of reforming some Troops, shou'd send them into the Service of the Catholick King; and the other, that they should lend him two Millions of Livres, for which they would engage the Tolls which they receive on the *Maes* and the *Schelde*; which the mention'd Sieur *Beverning* affirm'd to us to be a very advantageous Offer to the States, by which they would become Masters of the Trade of both those Rivers. He added, that he immediately sent back Word to the Marquis of *Castel Roderigo*, that he would not undertake to back these two Propositions; but if he had Power to agree on the part of the King his Master, concerning the Satisfaction to be given to your Majesty for your Propositions, he pray'd him to let him know it quickly at the *Hague*, because if so, the States would make him Overtures of Accommodation: The same Sieur *Beverning*

ning protested to us, that he was a hearty *Hollander*, and firmly perswaded 'twas the Interest of his Country not to depart from the ancient Alliance which it always had with *France*; but that he clearly saw that for want of Money, Troops, and good Conduct, the *Spaniards* would be driven out of the *Low-Countries*, and that would give such great Umbrages to the *United Provinces*, that he believ'd there was no time to lose, and that your Majesty having explain'd your Intentions, 'twas to be consider'd what cou'd be done to content you. He added also, that *l'Isola* talk'd as being secur'd that the King of *Great Britain* would not let your Majesty make that Conquest without opposing you, and also that he had promis'd an Assistance of twelve thousand Men to stop the Progress of our Arms, and that it was necessary to take care what would happen on that side.

We thank'd him for the Confidence he repos'd in us, and the favourable Inclinations which he shew'd of procuring the design'd Satisfaction to your Majesty; and we did not fail to let him know, that the best way that the States cou'd make use of to continue in Peace, and without jealousy of your Majesty's Conquests, is not to give the *Spaniards* any Hopes of Assistance from them, to reduce them to the Necessity of an Accommodation; we also invited him to employ his good Offices towards this Accommodation, on the Conditions which your Majesty offer'd to consent to. He seems to us to have a great desire to be concern'd in it, and he also protested to us here, that he would never desire any thing more in this World, if he was so happy as to finish a Work so much for the good of all Christendom, and particularly of his own Country.

What we can add of our selves is, that the States not agreeing so suddenly as they did with *Sweden*, to be free; 'tis very probable, will underhand give all possible Assistance, and that without appearing to take any Side, will liberally and very diligently help the Enemy;

Enemy; because they very well know that all the great Cities of the *Low-Countries* begin to totter, and acknowledge that the *Spaniards* are not in a Condition to defend them.

Memorial presented by the Count d'Estrades, to the States-General of the United-Provinces: August 11, 1667.

THE Count *d'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, has receiv'd Order from the King his Master, to renew to your Lordships the Instances which he has already made, and so frequently reiterated, to give to the Order of *Malta* the Satisfaction which it has so long expected from the Equity of your Lordships: Which Instances his Majesty thought proper to discontinue whilst your Lordships had more important and pressing Affairs, which did not permit them to apply themselves to this; but at present, when they and their People are entred on the enjoyment of a glorious and advantageous Peace, his Majesty thinks himself oblig'd on this Occasion to press your Lordships earnestly to reassume the course of that Affair: Your Lordships can do nothing more just, nor more agreeable to all the Powers which take part in the Interests of an Order so celebrated and commended as that of *Malta*: And the said Ambassador hopes that your Lordships will, not only in consideration of his Majesty, who has always us'd his Interest to that End with the fervour which is known to them, but for their own sake, speedily put their last hand to this Affair; and that so much the rather because we have already seen it far advanc'd, and at the point of being finish'd with their Consent, and should look on its Termination and Conclusion as an effect of the Justice and

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‘ Prudence of your Lordships, who by ending it may
 ‘ add this fresh felicity to that of the Peace, since the
 ‘ reparation consented to in favour of that Order is
 ‘ scarce considerable with regard to the advantages
 ‘ which will accrue to your Lordships Subjects in their
 ‘ Trade, and the universal Applause which the accom-
 ‘ plishment of this Affair will draw on them. Gi-
 ven at the *Hague*, August 11, 1667.

D’ESTRADES.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
 D’Estrades and Monsieur Courrin: Au-
 gust 12, 1667.*

BY the last Post I receiv’d the Duplicate which
 you was pleas’d to send me of the whole Dispatch,
 which *Monf. Pelletier* carry’d directly to the King;
 and since he is not advanc’d so far as this Place, I pre-
 suppose, as an infallible Truth, that his Majesty has sent
 him back with the Ratification of the Treaty which
 you have sign’d; but yet whatever happens, according
 to the News which I shall undoubtedly receive with-
 in two Days from the Army, which must be drawing
 nearer us by the Siege of *Lisle*, which is already in-
 vested, I shall get ready for you another Ratification,
 to send you either by Express, pursuant to the Order
 I may receive, or by the next Post, in which space
 there will be no time lost, since you are not oblig’d
 to produce that Instrument before the latter end of
 this Month.

In the interim I send you two Expeditions (the same
 with which I have given to *Monsieur van Beuningen*)
 for the Restitution to the States of *Holland*, of the
 Isles of *Tabago* and *St. Eustachius*, and the Colony of
Baumerona, tho’ we never heard of the last.

I again rejoice with you that the Affair of the Peace is finish'd, and on account of the new Glory which both of you have acquir'd; and also give you thanks, for so strenuously backing the Request of the States in favour of Mons. de la Frette:

His Majesty will by this time have made known to you his Intentions on the particular Act desir'd by the Electors of *Brandenburg* and *Palatine*, in which Affair I don't believe there will be any difficulty; and also on what you have said concerning the Accommodation, and Mons. *Beuering*, whose Zeal is very commendable.

I don't think that the Ratification ought to be drawn up in any other Language than our own, the Secretary of State having made use of no other for more than a Century of Years.

I have written to the King concerning the Mediators present, and your Interests, on which Subjects I have not any Answer.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: August 12, 1667.

S I R,

AT last we have sign'd the Peace to the Satisfaction of all those who were engag'd in the War, and have receiv'd the Thanks of both our Enemies and Allies. The King by his wise Conduct, and a sincere and honourable Way of proceeding, worthy himself, has now confounded those who doubted the honesty of his Intentions, and prevented his being any longer accus'd of fomenting Divisions amongst his Neighbours. The *English* Ambassadors earnestly desire that the Ratification may be in *Latin*, for the Reasons contain'd in the Letter which we have had the Honour to write to his Majesty: But you are better able than we to judge whether it be proper to give
them

them that Satisfaction. 'Tis necessary to content the Mediators, and return them (if we may so speak) what they lent us in the Treaties betwixt *Sweden* and *Denmark* at *Roschild* and *Copenhagen*. The King was Mediator in both of them, and we have govern'd our selves by the last, which seem'd to us the most authentick.

We have also been oblig'd to have some complaisance for the *English* Ambassadors, in the forming of the Articles; you know we are not Masters of the Expressions, and that in order to agree, 'tis necessary that every one be pleas'd: But with regard to Essentials, nothing contain'd in our Instructions has been omitted.

The *English* Ambassadors are very impatient to repass the Sea; we have promis'd that his Majesty's Ratification shall not detain them here, and hope, Sir, that you will discharge us of our Word. *Mons. Pelletier* has a Pass to come to us; but yet we entreat you for a greater security to send us a Duplicate of the Ratification also by the Post; we shall in the interim make a short step to the *Hague*, where we shall use our Interest to favour the Negotiation of the *Portuguese* Ambassador, pursuant to the Orders which we have receiv'd.

Perhaps you've heard, that in this Country 'tis the Fashion to beat a Drum at the departure of Ambassadors, to know whether they owe any Mony; and being sure shortly to hear the Chamade in this City, we shall want to be thought on a little, and that his Majesty would please to regulate our Appointments pursuant to the extraordinary Expence with which we have been charg'd. At the expiration of this Month, that is, when the Ratifications will be exchange'd, there will be five Months due to us; and having sav'd the King fifty thousand Livres, we hope his Majesty will re-imburse us what we have laid out for his Service.

Mons. Pelletier is charg'd with all the particular Declarations which have been deliver'd, to remove the
Difficul-

Difficulties which tended to retard the Conclusion of the Treaty; but they requiring no Ratification, we have not sent any Duplicates of 'em in the Packet which we dispatch'd to you by the ordinary Courier, by which, as above, we entreat you to convey to us the Ratification: That of the King of *Denmark*, according to Computation of his Ambassadors, will reach them by the 20th of this Month.

As soon as the Treaty of Peace was sign'd, I d'Estrades dispatch'd an Express to the *Texel*, with Orders to Mons. *de la Roche* to depart with his Majesty's Squadron to *Brest*, pursuant to the King's Orders.

Mons. *de Beverning* told us, that the Present which the States made each of the Mediators was four thousand Crowns.

You have herewith an Article of Nomination for the Elector of *Brandenburg*, which you will please to take the pains to correct, if you find it amiss. To satisfy him, 'tis necessary to mention the Ports, because of those of *Memel* and *Pillau*, and retrenching that Word, the same Declaration may be apply'd to the Elector *Palatine*. The *English* Ambassadors have promis'd Mons. *Spanheim* to furnish him with one before the Exchange of the Ratifications, you will set us well with him if you will allow us to make him the same Present.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades and Monsieur Courtin :
August 19, 1667.

I Yesterday receiv'd two Copies of his Majesty's Ratification, in order to cause them to be seal'd by the Chancellor; one of them I sent to Court to be return'd to Mons. *Pelletier*, and the other I send you by the Post; they are in *Latin*, because my Letter was not come to hand, which advis'd otherwise; but I
send

send also another in *French* to *Mons. le Tellier*, which, if thinks fit, he may send to you by the said *Mons. Pelletier*.

I ought to advertise you, that the Dispatch with which *Heron* the Courier was charg'd, who was taken by one of the Enemies Parties, together with all the Pacquets, were cypher'd and decypher'd at the same time with your Cypher, and so that the *Marquis de Castel Roderigo* having at present the Key, 'twill be very improper for either you or I to send any thing to one another in Cypher, 'till we have Opportunity to send you another Cypher: If *Mons. Courtin* brought that which we had betwixt us in *Germany*, if you like it, let him give you a Copy of it, and you are to make use of it at first, as I will on my side, 'till I am inform'd that you have return'd the said Copy.

His Majesty desires that *Mons. d'Estrades* will very soon go on purpose to the *Hague*, and pathetically testify to the States that his Majesty has a great desire to see the Differences betwixt them and the King of *Portugal* accommodated, to the Satisfaction of both Parties; and he shall be very much oblig'd to the same States, if they will also heartily endeavour a Reconciliation, and bring with them such Dispositions that it may be quickly concluded; his said Majesty both can and will assure them, that the King of *Portugal*, on his part, will agree with them on the foot of Reason and Justice; for which his Majesty freely offers to be responsible: If you please, you are without loss of time, to advise the *Portuguese* Minister of this Order, which you have receiv'd from his Majesty, and your readiness to execute it, and that without delay.

From

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades and Monsieur Courtin :
August 24, 1667.*

THE News of the Conclusion of the Treaty, in which you have labour'd so hard, is receiv'd here with great Joy; and his Majesty is as well pleas'd with it as you can desire, and the Service which you have therein render'd him deserves.

The Ratification will not reach *Breda* as soon as was concluded, for we have been hitherto in Places where the Communication with *Paris* was very difficult.

Orders shall be given for the Publication of the Peace, as you have agreed.

'Tis thought proper to comprehend the Electors of *Brandenburg* and *Palatine* in the Treaty by particular Declarations, the King being willing to give them that Satisfaction.

His Majesty grants each of you, Gentlemen, one thousand Crowns *per Month* for the whole time that you have been at *Breda*; I am happy in sending you this News, and shall always very much rejoice when able to serve you in any thing.

*From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de
Lionne: August 25, 1667.*

ON the Day before Yesterday we receiv'd the Ratification which you sent by the ordinary way. All the others being arriv'd before, we met the same Day, and agreed, that the Exchange and Publication shou'd be perform'd on the next Day. Two Reasons oblig'd us to make the Publication in the Form which you will see in one of the annex'd Papers, which we have caus'd to be printed: The first was, That the

See

Sea should be sooner free ; the second, That the time during which there should be no Restitution of Ships taken, shou'd expire on the same Day : For as it would have been difficult, at least have lost a great deal of time, to have caused the Proclamation to be made at the same time in *France, England, Denmark,* and the States Dominions, we all judg'd it of Importance to the publick Good to re-establish Trade quickly, and we believe that his Majesty will not disapprove our Thought for the Good of his Subjects.

The Ratifications were exchange'd Yesterday Morning, after which the *English* Ambassadors made us a Visit in our Apartment in the Castle, and we din'd together in my Lodgings.

The Publication was made at Four in the Afternoon, before the Gates of our Houses, by Sound of Trumpet, as is customary on such Occasions. This way of Publication was preferr'd to that of proclaiming it at the Cross-ways, to avoid any Contests that might have arose, and because we should have pretended, that our Trumpets shou'd have sounded first, to which the *English* Ambassadors would not have agreed. The Plenipotentiaries of the States caus'd their Proclamation to be made before the *Stadt-House*, and plac'd up their Copies at all the Corners of the Streets; we taking our Houses to represent *France, England,* and *Denmark*, and each of us contented our selves with affixing the Proclamation at his own Door. At Night we caus'd the Fountains to run Wine. The Plenipotentiaries of the States lighted up a Fire, compos'd of great Flambeaux, before the *Stadt-House*, and gave a splendid Entertainment in the Hall. They invited the most beautiful young Women in the Provinces, amongst which there were Nine, which would have restor'd you to Health. We drank the *Sommetjes* with 'em, which Word requires an Explanation: They fill a Glass with Wine and Sugar, the young Woman begins with swallowing a Throatful, then returns the Glass to the Man who gave it her, and kisses his Mouth; the Man does the same on his side,

side, till there be not a Drop left in the Glass. This lasted till late in the Night.

You not having return'd any Answer, either concerning our own Salaries, or the Presents for the Mediators, we with them left the Company. Perhaps Monsieur *Pelletier* will bring us some Resolution on those Heads, and tho' really those Gentlemen have not had much Trouble in our Business, Decency yet requires that we treat them, as has been always customary on the like Occasions, I, *D'Estrades*, shall continue to encourage the Negotiation of the Ambassador of *Portugal*: Both of us have earnestly solicited the advancing of it in our last Journey to the *Hague*, and I hope to be quickly able to give you an account of that Affair. I, *Courtin*, having resolv'd to depart in eight Days, from this Day, if I learn that Don *John de Monroi*, who, I am told, was arrested at *Perone*, after he had gone thro' *France* with a Pass, is set at Liberty; otherwise I shall not trust to that of the Marquis of *Castel Roderigo*, but rather come home by Sea, tho' that will be very inconvenient, by reason of my Equipage.

We send you the Copies of the Memoirs and Extracts, which Don *Esteuan de Gamarra* caus'd to be dispers'd thro' the Cities of *Holland*, after the intercepting of the Dispatches with which *Heron* was charg'd. There is one Article which concerns our Negotiations, which certainly does not come from you; and 'twill be difficult to perswade any here, that we had a Design to hinder or retard the Conclusion of the Peace.

The Publication of the Peace here does not lessen the Necessity of the same being done in *France*, *England*, *Denmark*, and the Countries subject to the States. So, Sir, we beg you to discharge our Word which we have given, as soon as you shall have receiv'd his Majesty's Orders.

The most Christian King's Letter to the States-General of the United-Provinces: Aug. 27, 1667.

MOST dear, great Friends, Allies and Confederates, the *Sieur Golbert de Feron*, Intendant of my Western Sea-Coasts, being oblig'd, in Obedience to the Orders which we gave him, to provide for the storing of our Magazines, and particularly for the Maintenance of the Foundry at *Xanten*, he, about a Year past, address'd to the *Sieur Torsmire*, a Commissary of Trade from the Crown of *Sweden*, Resident at *Rockelle*, to cause to come from *England* 302 Pigs of of Tin, five or six *per Cent.* of which is us'd in founding of Cannon. This Tin being laden in a Ship nam'd the *Pestition*, was met coming out of *Portsmouth* by a *Zealand* Privateer, and carried into that Province; on which we were willing to write you this Letter, to assure you that the said Tin was bought by our Orders for the Supply of our Marine Magazines; and require you at the same time to order the *Zealand* Privateer to restore it to us, as you will conclude without doubt, that Justice and Reason should be practis'd betwixt good and faithful Allies. In the mean time we pray God that he will have you, most dear, great Friends, Allies, and Confederates, in his holy and gracious Keeping. Written at our Camp before *Lisle*, August 27, 1667.

Your good Friend, Ally, and Confederate,

Sign'd, *LOUIS.*

And below, *De Lionne.*

The Superscription was,

To our most dear, great Friends, Allies, and Confederates, the Lords the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands.

From

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: Septemb. 2, 1647.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 25th, which I immediately sent to the King, to let him know, if he was not before inform'd of it, that the Exchange of the Ratifications was happily perform'd on the 24th of the last Month, at which his Majesty very much rejoyc'd. I doubt not but he will very well approve the Resolutions which you have taken about the Publication of the Peace at the place of the Assembly, and in the manner which you have done. We are at present busie in causing it to be proclaim'd at *Paris*, and thro' the whole Kingdom.

I have certainly found that the Governor had not the Key of your Cypher, so that you may continue to make use of it, and the rather that, as ill Luck will have it, when I receiv'd your Dispatch of the 25th, my Clerk, who return'd from the Army with me, has not here a Copy of the Key to Mons. Courtin's Cypher; so that I cannot tell what you have sent me in it, but have yet explain'd it at Discretion.

At this very Instant I have receiv'd a Dispatch from the King, which brings me, That he has granted to the Electors of *Brandenburg* and *Palatine* the Declarations which they desir'd, to be comprehended on his part in the Peace. I have sent one to Monsieur *Millet*, who is at *Berlin*, and he will give it into the Hands of the Elector of *Brandenburg* himself, which may serve him for other Negotiations, with which he is charg'd; and I shall give Mons. *Pawel* that which is for his Master.

His Majesty is resolv'd to make a Present to the Ambassadors of *Sweden*, which will be four thousand Crowns to each of them. I shall promote it.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne : September 8, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the second of this Month, and shall continue to make use of the Cypher which you gave me.

There are no Artifices which Don *Essevan de Gamarra* has not made use of to oblige the States to resolve to assist the *Spaniard*; he has been himself in the Assembly of the States-General, and with all the Deputies of the Provinces, to acquaint them that *Ghent* and *Bruges* were taken, and all that Country lost; he sent *Richard*, Secretary to the *Spanish* Ambassy, and his Brother, Consul for the *Spanish* Nation, to all the Cities of *Holland*; the *Sieur de Wit* an *Irish* Colonel, and the *Sieur Borgeis* Counsellor of *Brabant*, have been sent to the *Hague* by *Castel Roderigo*, and have so press'd the States, and exaggerated the Loss of the whole *Netherlands*, that all I could do, could not prevent an extraordinary Convocation of the Assembly of *Holland*, in which the Deputies will be more numerous than in the ordinary Ones, and consequently new People will be there, with whom 'twill be more difficult to Negotiate. Most of them are arriv'd here; they, with their Families, were present at a great Bonfire which I caus'd to be made for the Peace, and at a Feast where the Prince of *Orange*, the Ambassadors, and several of the States with their Families were also, and a great Number of People, for whom I made the Wine run for four Hours; tho' this was but a Trifle, it was yet serviceable in this Conjunction, all that was done seeming to be done by the King's Order to divert the People. The Pensionary *de Wit* was at home, dancing and making merry with the People 'till two in the Morning, and made a great Entertainment. We visited one another during the Fires, and drank the King's Health

Health with the People; and I am yet very much fatigu'd with that Day's Work.

But to return to the great Alarms, which the States have receiv'd from the Fears which Don *Esteven de Gamarra* has put them in, which immediately ceas'd at the Arrival of Monsieur *de la Faye*, who brought us the News of all that pass'd on the Canal of *Bruges*, and that the King was gone for *Paris*, and had order'd his Forces to be posted in their respective Places; which clearly shews that his Majesty's Design was not to attack *Ghent* and *Bruges*. I was with Monsieur *de Wit* to communicate my Advices, and then to concert Measures betwixt us two; I visited all the Deputies of the Cities of *Holland*, and forgot nothing which I thought proper to be said to destroy all that Don *Esteven de Gamarra* had given out, shewing his Design, which was only to surprize them into some precipitate Resolution, which would tend to a Rupture with his Majesty: I entreated them to act for the future with less Precipitation, and to consider that they were assembled on the Assurances which the *Spanish* Ambassador had given them of the taking of *Ghent* and *Bruges*, without staying for any clear Account of it, nor having any regard to the Assurances which I had given them to the contrary; I told them, I hop'd, that for the future they would not be so hasty, and repose a greater Confidence in the good Intentions which his Majesty had for their Repose and Interests; that he well knew, that after the routing of the Enemy's Cavalry, if he had only march'd before *Ghent* and *Bruges*, those Places would have surrendred; but the sole regard to them had diverted him, that he might not give them any Umbrage, and also to give them time to dispose the *Spaniards* to do his Majesty Justice on the head of the Queen's Rights; and that this sincere and disinterested manner of Proceeding ought to lead them to a strong and vigorous Resolution to oblige the *Spaniard* to give the King Satisfaction, and in case of Refusal to join their Arms to his to force it;

that I intreated them to observe the Difference betwixt our Proceedings and theirs in this place; that the *Spaniards* publish'd the Loss of the whole *Netherlands*; and the taking of *Ghent* and *Bruges*, to surpris and oblige them to break with us; and that the King, without insisting on the great Obligations which the States have to him, withdrew his Army after a Victory, which rendred it easie for him to conquer the whole *Low-Countries*, to avoid giving them so great an Umbrage, which plainly shew'd the disinterested Affection his Majesty has for this State; instead of which the *Spaniards* endeavour'd to surpris them with fixitious Terrors, and imaginary Captures of Places. To this I added, that they might remember all that the Governor of *Flanders* did against them during the *Münster* War; the taking of the Castles of *Flanx* and *Oldenbost*, the enterprize on Fort *Climar*, and the Number of Troops and Officers which he allow'd to serve that Bishop against them, which were manifest Contraventions of the Treaties of Alliance; which ought to perswade them, that his Intention always was to create them Difficulties, and that they ought to precaution themselves against all these new Envoyes, which thrust even into their Families to insinuate the Security of negotiating a League offensive and defensive for the Preservation of the *Low-Countries*. This Discourse seem'd to me to produce a good Effect in the Minds of the Deputies, and I assure you, that Monsieur *de Wit* seconded me with Address on this head; for I know, that seeming to be of the same Opinion with the warmest of those against us, he led them into the right Notion. But after having talk'd with Monsieur *Courtin* on the State of Affairs, 'twill be necessary, Sir, because I am very much press'd on that Subject, to send me an Answer to the Proposals of Accommodation, and Monsieur *de Wit* does not fail to ask for it every Post.

The Terror in the Enemy's Horse was so great after the Battel, that they retir'd in disorder to *Sluys*, *Ardenburg*,

denburg, Iſondyck, Philippines, and Sas van Ghent, all places subject to the States.

The Mediators expect a Present from the King. The more which can be sent them, the better; the States have given each of them 4000 Crowns.

I know from one of my Friends, a Deputy from the City of *Haerlam*, that the *Spaniards* offer to give the States Cautionary Towns, if they will enter into a League offensive and defensive for the Preservation of the *Netherlands*, and that they have also propos'd *Ostend* and *Namur*. Monsieur *de Wit* says nothing of it, and disown'd its ever having being mention'd to him; notwithstanding which, I don't doubt the Truth of it, and that the Offer was made; but I also believe, that Monsieur *de Wit* will not resolve on any thing, or give his Consent, before he is clearly convinc'd, that there is nothing to be hop'd for from the Proposals of Accommodation which he has made me, and to which I have not receiv'd the King's Answer.

Yet if that goes forward, I entreat you to let me know, whether I ought not to make some Declaration on that Article to the States, at a publick Audience, to give them to understand that the King will take it for an Infraction of the Treaty of 1662, if they enter into any defensive Treaty for *Flanders*.

I have just this Minute learn'd, that the two Envoys of *Castal Roderigo* make pressing Instances to the States to borrow three Millions of Guilders, they offer to quit all their Tolls and Customs on the *Maese* and *Schelde*, and also give to understand that they will engage cautionary Places as a Security for that Sum.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: September 9, 1667.*

THEIR Majesties being now return'd hither, and God be thank'd in perfect Health, I proceed to re-assume our Letter Correspondence, with greater Care than my Distemper, and my distance from the Court, would permit me for some Months past.

The King highly approves that an Agreement be endeavour'd betwixt the *French* and the *English*, for the Security of navigating Merchant Ships, which the Plenipotentiaries of the States propos'd, to give Passports on one side and the other; I shall write to Morrow to Mon. *de Ruigny*, who is gone to *London* to concert the Affair with the King of *Great Britain*. The King will hold himself oblig'd to all Princes who will offer their Interposition for his Accommodation with the *Spaniards*; both because his Majesty sincerely desires it, and because that he would be glad that all the Princes in *Europe*, if it were possible, might be Witnesses of the Moderation which he would employ in that Negotiation; but the Conjunction of the said Princes, as that of *England* and the States, to make him such Offers jointly, cannot be very agreeable, and 'tis also yet to be consider'd that his Majesty, by accepting that of the States, does not injure the Reasons which he has to pretend, that they will be oblig'd after four Months to act another part than that of Mediators, being bound by Treaty to be Guarantees of all his said Majesty's Rights. Sign'd, &c.

From

From the King to the Count D'Estrades:
September 16, 1667.

THE *Sieur de Lionne* read to me your Dispatch of the 8th of this Month. *Gamarra's* Artifice of spreading false News in the *United-Provinces*, of the taking of *Ghent* and *Bruges*, with design to lead them to some precipitate Resolutions against my Interest, and perhaps not less against those of the Provinces, ought to open their Eyes for the future, with regard to every thing which comes from that side, and render them very suspicious of it: Yet 'tis to be expected from the Prudence of the States, that they will easily own, that all the Offers which the *Spaniards* can make them, even the demise of *Ostend* or *Namur*, to engage them to undertake a War against me, cannot be so advantageous nor secure to their State, as to promote the Accommodation, in the Disposition in which I am to content my self with very reasonable Conditions: However, before they take any step, from which they cannot go back, they ought, if they please to guide themselves by their ordinary Wisdom, stay for the Answer which I am to make to the last Propositions of the *Sieur de Wit*, to see whether I really have in my Heart the Disposition which I pretend to for this Agreement, or whether I have the Sentiments of an immoderate Ambition, as my Enemies would perswade them. I hope next Week to send back the *Sieur van Benningen* thoroughly inform'd of all my Intentions. The Affair is so important and so nice, that it very well deserves my taking time to deliberate on it for some Days; my being employ'd in the War would not allow me to do it during the Campaign. Since I have seen the Proposal of *Monf. de Wit*, you may by advance say, that I will put the Accommodation into the Hands of the States on Conditions which they themselves shall not find unreasonable.

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But to say the Truth, I will not pretend to be engag'd to any thing, if I don't see that the States, who are in strict Justice bound by our own Treaties to support my Rights, not only don't discharge this Obligation, but make some partial Steps, as that would be of which you speak at the end of your last Dispatch, to lend Sums of Mony to the *Spanish* on Tolls on the *Schelde* and *Maese*.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
September 17, 1667.

I Wrote last to Monsieur de Lionne, the uneasiness in which I was in at the Cabals and Intrigues of the *Spaniards* in the Cities of *Holland* against your Majesty's Interests; I have been since better inform'd of all things, and learn'd that *Cassel Roderigo's* Envoys have made great Progress in the Cities, having perswaded them that the Book of *l'Isola*, call'd the *Buckler of State and Justice*, clearly shews that the Rights of the Queen are not well grounded, and that it clearly destroys all the Reasons alledged by the Books which were presented to the States by your Majesty's Order. They give out also, that your Design is to render your self universal Monarch; to compass which, your Majesty would have no great difficulty, after you had conquer'd *Flanders*, which ought already to be reckon'd as lost, if the States don't speedily declare for those Countries, by sending them a considerable Assistance. After being assured of all this, and observ'd a great deal of Fear and Alteration on the Spirits of my most particular Friends, I went to Mons. de Wit, and let him know that I was surpris'd to see such a great Change in the Inclinations of the Deputies of this Assembly, and that they seem'd more *Spaniards* than *French*, without having any regard to the Treaty of 1662, which was executed on our part in all Points so punctually and

advanc

advantageously for the Interest of the States, that I thought it was time that the same States should consider that the four Months were expir'd, and being oblig'd to be Guarantees of all your Majesty's Rights, you expected that they should declare against your Enemies by Vertue of the said Treaty of 1662.

I further told him, that I had great Reason to complain, to see the Measures and the Correspondences which the States engag'd in from all Parts, without their giving me any Knowledge of it; that I knew that the first advice of the Disgrace of the Chancellor of *England* came by an Express Courier from *Castel Rodrigo*; that this News was spread abroad as the Performance of the Count *de Molina*, and *l'Isola*, and the blow given by their Cabal; 'twas reported at the same time, that they were secure that the King of *England* would enter into their Party, to oppose your Majesty's Designs; that so many *Spanish* Couriers and Envoys from the *Spaniards* in the Cities and Provinces gave me a Jealousie, as well as the Preparatives for so many Extraordinary Embassies to *England*, *Sweden*, the Elector of *Brandenburg* and the Emperor: That I was well inform'd, that the Pretext was the writing all these Kings and Princes to be Mediators for the Peace; but also, that I did not doubt but that all these Alliances would widen the Distance betwixt us, rather than bring us nearer together, being well inform'd that Prince *Maurice* had Order to conclude a near Union betwixt the Emperor and the States; that no Endeavours were omitted with the Count *de Dohna*, to incline the King his Master to take Umbrage at the Conquests which your Majesty has made; that he afterwards dispatch'd his Secretary into *Sweden* to receive fresh Orders, and to defer the Voyage to *France* which he was order'd to make.

That in the three first Days of the assembling of the States of *Holland*, they debated whether the *Spanish* Offers were to be excepted; namely, to lend them three Millions, and permit six thousand Men to engage in

in their Service, provided that they gave *Ostend* and other Places for Hostages and Securities; that five Cities were willing to consent to it; but the rest alledg'd that they ought rather to know whether his Majesty would hearken to an Accommodation, and that in case of refusal they would accept the mention'd Offers.

He answer'd, That he could not deny that the *Spanish* Envoys made pressing Instances to oblige the States to declare for the Preservation of their remainder of the *Low-Countries*; that the Book entitul'd the *Backler of State and Justice*, had gain'd a great deal over the Inclinations of the People, and that it was evident that the regular Forms had not been observ'd in your Majesty's taking Arms; that the States would very punctually and *verbatim* observe the Articles of the Treaty of 1662; that nothing therein contain'd oblig'd the States to break with the *Spaniards*; that your Majesty had attack'd and taken Places without even giving time to the Parties concern'd to endeavour an Accommodation; and that they discharg'd the Duties of faithful Allies by endeavouring to find out ways of Reconciliation, as it had appear'd by the Proposal which he made me two Months since, without your Majesty's giving any Answer to it; which strengthen'd the Reasons alledg'd by the *Spanish* Envoys, that your Majesty aim'd at nothing but gaining of time to amuse them, and to take all; that he thought it his Duty to represent to me, that the States could not any longer remain in suspense; that if your Majesty pleas'd that they should concern themselves in the Accommodation, he hop'd to force the *Spaniards* to accept of the Proposals which he had already made; that to oblige them the sooner, he had told Don *Estevan de Gamara* that your Majesty had taken *Ghent* and *Bruges*, if the States had not began a Negotiation, and your Majesty had not been so moderate as to make no farther Progresses; which he alledg'd for the advancement of your Majesty's Glory, very well knowing that what oblig'd the retiring of your Arms really was the want of a sufficient

ficient number of Infantry to form considerable Sieges, and keep the Places you had taken; but that he would not lose any Opportunity of disposing the Parties to satisfy your Majesty; that if you thought it agreeable to consent to a Suspension of Arms 'till *March*, he would not doubt of good Success in the Accommodation; that there was no more time to be lost; that if your Majesty flights the good Intentions of the States in mediating for Peace, they shall have reason to be perswaded that your Majesty aims at War, and the conquering of all the Country; that 'twould be too late for them to take precautionary Measures, and make Alliances, when your Majesty would be Master of their Frontiers; that they should be then in the same confusion which the *Spaniards* at present are; that to avoid this Inconvenience, they sent to all Kings and Princes to entreat them to join with them to procure the Peace of Christendom, and in case that was not to be done, for every one to provide for their own Safety; nor could he advise his Masters to refuse the Proposals which the *Spanish* made to them, in case your Majesty resolv'd to continue the War; that they had never taken this way, if your Majesty had repos'd Confidence enough in them to have accepted them for Mediators; but seeing that your Majesty had other Thoughts, and did not in two Months time return any Answer on this Article, they were apt to believe that you took other Measures.

That he assur'd me that he would always firmly stick to what he had said to *Mons. Courrin* and me, which was to encline his Masters to continue inseparably in your Majesty's Interests, pursuant to the proposed Conditions, taking it to be for the mutual good and advantage of both; but not being possible to obtain that end, the States are of necessity to endeavour at such Securities and Alliances as may shelter them from your Majesty's great Power.

By this Answer, and the Disposition which I observe in the *Cities*, your Majesty may very well judge
that

that when the States lose the Hopes of an Accommodation, they will take Sides.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
September 22, 1667.

I Have receiv'd the Dispatch which your Majesty did me the Honour to write on the 16th Instant. The Minds of the Members of this Assembly are so prepossess'd against us, that we, that is Mons. *de Wit* and I, thought fit to separate them on some Pretexs for some Days, which is done; and in the interim, we may labour to efface the Impression which the *Spaniards* have made on the Cities, that your Majesty aims absolutely at the Conquest of the *Low Countries*, and after that to fall on the *United-Provinces*.

The hope which your Majesty gave of dispatching with utmost Expedition the *Sieur van Benningen* with a favourable Answer, has given a great deal of pleasure to Mons. *de Wit*, who will do all in his Power to hinder his Masters from taking precipitate Resolutions, with regard to the acceptance of the Offers made them by the *Spaniards*.

I have given your Majesty an account by my Courier, of all that pass'd in the Discourse which Mons. *de Wit* and I had. He persists in saying, that 'tis not in his Power to hinder the States joining with the *Spaniards*, if your Majesty's Conquests proceed further; and he most instantly begs your Majesty not to lose the Opportunity of getting out of a War with so much Glory and Honour, and obtaining for the Pretension of his Rights, a Division so advantageous as that which he proposes.

I reply'd, that to put an end to this War, as he desir'd, 'twas necessary to go farther than his Proposal, and that there were Places conquer'd afterwards, which your Majesty would not quit; in all our Conversations

ons I spoke only as from my self, not being able to do otherwise without your Majesty's Orders.

Monsieur *Flemming*, Ambassador from *Sweden*, dy'd suddenly at *Breda*: He was on the point of going for *England*. The Count *de Dohna* talks no more of going to *France*; but as far as I can penetrate, is likely to go for *England* in Monsr. *Flemming's* stead; he waits Orders from *Sweden* to know what will happen.

My Son is this moment arriv'd; three Days since he came from *Aelst*; I sent him immediately to Monsr. *de Wit*, to tell him that Monsieur *de Turenne* had sent him Express to acquaint the States, that pursuant to your Majesty's Orders, after having eaten up and destroy'd the Forage near the Enemies great Cities, and rais'd *Aelst* and *Deynse*, to deprive the *Spaniards* of the convenience of subsisting any Bodies of their Army there during the Winter, he had sent his Army into Winter Quarters; he acquainted the President for the Week with the same, and they are both very glad of it, and it was immediately reported to the Assembly of the States, who resolv'd to impart it to the Cities, which will not a little help to giving them a clear view of the *Spanish* Artifices; and the rather, because *Castel Rodrigo* has dispatch'd a Courier to Don *Estevan de Gamarra*, which arriv'd at the same time with my Son. This Courier informs them of the Siege of *Brussels*, and persists in demanding Assistance; these two pieces of News being so contrary, and arriving at the same time, will serve me very much at this Conjunction, and retard the Projects of the *Spaniards*.

The Dispatches which come from *England* confirm the ruin of the Earl of *Clarendon*, and that the *Spanish* Cabal is that which governs at present.

Memorial

*Memorial sent by the King to the Count
D'Estrades, by Monsieur de Lionne :
September 27, 1667.*

THE *Sieur de Wit* having instantly entreated the King by the said Count *d'Estrades*, in the beginning of last *July*, to explain the Satisfaction which his Majesty might desire in order to accommodating with *Spain* the Differences which had for some Months disturb'd the publick Peace, the said *Sieur de Wit* giving to understand, that if his said Majesty and the States might agree together the Conditions of the said Accommodation, the States would oblige the *Spaniards* to close with it, either by their very efficacious Offices, or even by force of Arms, if necessary to make use of them; his said Majesty having found *Monf. de Wit's* Design to be very good, being what may establish for ever a perfect Union betwixt this Crown and their State, which cannot then any longer conceive any unjust Umbrages at the Grandeur of his Majesty's Designs and Power, charg'd the said *Sieur d'Estrades* to tell the said *Sieur de Wit*, that after having maturely consider'd and deliberated on this important Affair, he was at last come to a Resolution, for Peace sake, to content himself with an Accommodation on the following Conditions, in case that they brought the *Spaniards* to comply with them.

That the said *Spaniards* yield to him for his present Pretensions, the *Franche Comte*, the Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, *Charleroy*, *Cambray* and the *Cambresis*, *Tournay*, *Danay*, *Aire* and *St. Omer*, *Bergues* and *Furnes*; and even in that his Majesty has regard to use great Moderation, in consideration of what *Spain* is to do at the same time for the Satisfaction of the King of *Portugal*, his said Majesty not being able, nor will he conclude any Accommodation, without the

the said King, and to speak truly, his said Majesty having Rights over all the Provinces of the *Low-Countries* under the Domination of *Spain*, except some part of the Earldom of *Flanders*, and being in a Condition able to reduce it to Reason by force of Arms, no disinterested Person can deny; that what he pretends for his Satisfaction is very moderate, in which as he has already said, his End is the contentment of the King of *Portugal*, whom the *Spaniards* are also to satisfy on the Title of King, which is the sole Difference remaining betwixt them.

The said Count *d'Estrades* advises the King by his Dispatch of the 21st of *July*, that the *Sieur de Wit* told him, after he had discours'd as from himself with the ablest Deputies of the States of *Holland* on the Conditions of the Accommodation above-mention'd, they all concluded, after several Discourses which they frequently had on that Affair with the *Spanish* Ambassador *Friguet*, and other Persons affected to the House of *Austria*, that the *Spaniards* would very near as soon quit the whole *Spanish* *Netherlands*, as yield to his Majesty the Places and Countries above-mention'd.

But that if his said Majesty would restrain himself to a more moderate Pretension, he the said *de Wit*, and the Deputies his Friends with whom he had conferr'd as of his own accord, believ'd that they might induce the *Spaniards* to give his Majesty Satisfaction on the following Conditions.

To yield the *Franche Comte*, *Cambray* and the *Cambresis*, *Dunay*, *St. Omer*, *Aire*, *Bergues* and *Furnes*, with their *Bailliages*, *Castellenies* and *Dependances*, that *Charleroy* should be ras'd, and *Tournay* and all the other Places which his Majesty had taken restored; that his Majesty shou'd consent to a Suspension of Arms for — Months, that the States would cause Instances to be made at *Madrid*, and at *Vienna*, to oblige the *Spaniards* to consent to this, and in case the said *Spaniards* did not incline to satisfy his said

• Majesty on the Conditions immediately before specified, the said States would take Arms to constrain them by force, at the same Moment that the said States should engage themselves by a Treaty with his Majesty.

• The said *de Wit* added, that 'twould be necessary at the same time to take Measures together on the case of the decease of the King of *Spain* without Children, and these Measures should be to make a secret Treaty separate from the former, which should import, that in the Case abovemention'd of the Death of the King of *Spain*, then was to be re-assum'd the same Project, which was made some time past, with the same Partition, and that his Majesty and the States should take Arms to drive the *Spaniards* out of the *Low-Countries*, and canton the great Cities, and oblige them to turn themselves into Republicks; which should be done before the Emperor was in Condition to assist them; that by this means his said Majesty would be at liberty to reap the Succession in the whole Extent of his Kingdoms which the *Spaniards* possessed, and that the said *de Wit* esteem'd it to be no small thing to have nothing to fear on the side of *Germany*, since the States and their Allies could raise a potent Army to oppose whatever could come from the Empire. This was the *Sieur de Wit's* Answer, and his Offers on the King's first Declaration; on which his Majesty having afresh very maturely deliberated after his return from the Army, and being willing to convince all the World, by very sensible and palpable Effects, of the truth of all whatever he has always said and written of his reasonable and very moderate Disposition, considering the Quality and Importance of his Rights, and how far he is from the thoughts of an universal Monarchy, which his Enemies maliciously and falsely ascribe to him, or from forming an unalterable Design of an entire Conquest of the *Netherlands*; and being willing to evince to the States General of the *United-Provinces* his Allies
• the

the Complaisance which he has for their Satisfaction, and how much Deference he pays to their Counsels or their Desires; his said Majesty will have that the said *Sieur d'Estades* do in Confidence give the said *Sieur de Wit* to understand,

In the first place, that on the future and very uncertain case of the Death of the King of *Spain* without Children, he agrees and entirely accepts the Proposal of the said *Sieur de Wit*, in the same Terms that 'tis here just before express'd, and will pass and sign at present the Treaties which they propose.

In the second place, regarding the reciprocal Conditions which the *Sieur de Wit* offers on the part of the States in manner above express'd; touching the Accommodation of the present Differences, his Majesty will consent to content himself for his Satisfaction with the Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, *Cambray* and the *Cambresis*, *Donay*, *Aire* and *St. Omer*, *Bergues* and *Farnes*, with their Bailliages, Castellanies and Dependances, to raze *Charleroy*, and render to the King of *Spain* all the other Places and Countries which his Arms had conquer'd since their entry into *Flanders*; and in Consideration that the said King shall agree to treat with the King of *Portugal* not from Crown to Crown, as has been done by the Interposition of the *English*, but shall make Peace with him directly from King to King, his said Majesty will for that single point of Honour depart from the *Franche Comté*, *Charleroy* and *Tournay*, which he demanded by his first Proposal.

The said *Sieur d'Estades* is also to observe to the said *Sieur de Wit*, that the Affair of *Portugal* ought not to prove any Obstacle to a general Accommodation, since the *Spanish* Ministers residing in all Courts have for some time given out, that 'twas at last resolv'd at *Madrid* to make Peace with *Portugal*, and to treat from King to King, which is the sole Difficulty.

' The said *Sieur d'Estrades* will also observe to the
 ' said *de Wit*, with regard to the Alteration made in
 ' the Proposal, by substituting instead of the *Franche*
 ' *Comte*, the Duchy of *Luxemburg*, that the *Sieur*
 ' *van Benningen* himself has frequently testify'd here,
 ' speaking of the Conferences which he had with the
 ' Ministers of the House of *Austria*, that *Spain* would
 ' easier yield the Duchy of *Luxemburg*, where it pos-
 ' sess'd but one Place, and where his Majesty has three
 ' which are fortify'd, than part with the *Franche Comte*,
 ' which is a larger extent of Land, and which it sets
 ' a greater value on, for being the ancient Patrimony
 ' of the House of *Burgundy*; so that the change of
 ' one for the other in the Offer of the said *Sieur de*
 ' *Wit*, which his Majesty has done, tends rather to fa-
 ' cilitate than to obstruct the Treaty.

' And also the said *Sieur d'Estrades* shall acquaint
 ' the *Sieur de Wit*, that if the *Spaniards* had rather part
 ' with the *Franche Comte*, than the Duchy of *Luxem-*
 ' *burg*, his Majesty will close with them.

' As for the Suspension of Arms, he is to tell him,
 ' that before 'tis possible to have any Answer from
 ' *Spain*, the Winter Season, which so near approaches,
 ' will naturally occasion the said Cessation of Arms, the
 ' Conditions of which, if the conclusion of a Treaty
 ' be resolv'd on, will probably be very difficult to ad-
 ' just.

' But yet in either Case, if the States persist in that
 ' Request, his Majesty will grant the whole principal
 ' and sole Effect which they can think of for their In-
 ' terests; that is to say, that he will make no difficul-
 ' ty to promise to attempt nothing on any fortify'd
 ' Place of the *Spaniards* in the *Low-Countries*, if they
 ' will reciprocally oblige themselves to attempt nothing
 ' on his Majesty's strong Places, either which he be-
 ' fore possess'd on that side, or which he has conquer'd
 ' in the last Campaign; and at the same time, instead
 ' of three Months which the *Sieur de Wit* ask'd, his
 ' Majesty will consent to what has been said till next

' *March*,

March, which will be six intire Months, on Condition that the States will promise from this present, that if betwixt this and that time the Accommodation, as above projected, be not concluded for want of the *Spaniards* Consent, the States shall not on any Pretence, whatsoever may happen, make any fresh Instances to his Majesty for the Prerogation beyond the said Month of *March* of the said Concert, to make no attempt in the *Netherlands* on the strong Places on either side.

Yet, that all Christendom, and particularly the States, may be yet more evidently convinc'd how much the real Dispositions of his Majesty are inclin'd to a quick Accommodation, and how moderate his Sentiments on that regard are, the said *Sieur d'Estrades* shall also declare on his part to the said *Sieur de Wit*, that if the *Spaniards* shew too great a repugnance to satisfy his Majesty on the Conditions already mention'd, he will consent from this present to lay down his Arms, and also sacrifice to the Publick all the Hopes which he might reasonably conceive of pushing his Success considerably forwards the next Campaign; provided that the *Spaniards*, besides satisfying the King of *Portugal*, will yield to his Majesty in due Form by a Treaty of Peace, which may be made this Winter, all the strong Places and Posts and their Castelleries and Dependencies which his Arms have, and shall conquer, possess or fortifie during this Year's Campaign; and by means of this Alternative, which his Majesty will be content that the States shall offer to the King of *Spain*, the reciprocal Conditions on their part above specify'd and offer'd by the *Sieur de Wit*, always provided, in case the *Spaniards* refuse to consent to the Accommodation: 'Tis easie to see that his Majesty puts into the Hands of the said King of *Spain* the Peace of Christendom, by the Cession of certain Places which he has already lost, and which probably other Princes will think he is less in Condition to reconquer, than

to lose yet more, by the Advantages which those afford to his Majesty's Arms to pursue their Success; after which, his Majesty leaves all disinterested Persons to judge whether he can make greater Advances, and contribute more than his Majesty has done to the re-establishment of the publick Peace, and if after this any Prince or Potentate can, with the least appearance of Reason or Justice, think of forming Leagues against his Designs, as tending to universal Monarchy, or even only to the Conquest of the Low-Countries.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count d'Estrades: September 28, 1667.

IN discharge of the King's Order mention'd in the last Article of his Majesty's Memorial, I must tell you, that I have not read it to Monsieur *van Benningen*, who to morrow leaves *Paris*, but his Majesty commanded me to acquaint him with the whole substance of it. He declar'd himself satisfy'd with all the Resolutions which his Majesty had taken, even beyond his Hopes; for he did not at all expect the Alternative which his Majesty has offer'd on his own accord, and which not only so evidently proves the sincere Disposition of his Majesty to the Peace, but may give room to the Princes which interpose, to oblige the *Spaniards* to consent. If they will not barely give up what they have already lost, and perhaps dare not pretend are in a State to reconquer, they must necessarily own that their Design is to confound other Princes with themselves in this War; and 'twill then be left to them to judge, if they ought to engage in it for a Nation, to whom is offer'd more than Justice, in order to extricate them out of unhappy Circumstances, which they yet would render worse by an invincible Obstinacy. Monsieur *van Benningen* assures us, that he

he will do wonders even beyond it for the King's Satisfaction at present, since he has been thoroughly inform'd of the King's Intentions; but I am oblig'd to advertise you, and by you Monsieur *de Wit*, to take care and remedy what I think is push'd a little too far, that the King by the present Accommodation is oblig'd to confirm the Queen's Renunciation, and abandon all future Pretensions whatever: Which obliges me to declare peremptorily, that his Majesty, whatever may happen, will never be guilty of the Indignity of declaring the said Renunciation valid, after having maintain'd by so many convincing Reasons that 'twas null, and wholly invalid. Monsieur *de Wit*, who has a greatness of Mind and Capacity much above the ordinary Rate; very well saw at first that this String was not to be touch'd on either side, because 'twas a Rock on which all Negotiations would split; 'tis our Business, if we can, to get out of this present Difference, and refer the future to the disposition of Heaven, and perhaps to the most remote Posterity to foresee; for 'tis even most probable that the Case will never happen, the King of *Spain* enjoying all the Health and Vigour which his most zealous Subjects can wish him; but however it may be remedied with regard to the Interest which the States have in it, by the Expedient in the Treaty propos'd by the *Sieur de Wit*.

I told Monsieur *van Beuningen*, that if the Affair stuck at forming an Assembly of Ministers, 'twas to be fear'd there would be no Peace, tho' the King had augmented the term of three to six Months; the Reasons will be more obvious to Monsieur *de Wit* than me; but yet the King will consent to whatever shall regard the said Assembly, provided it be in the Quarters on this side, in a Neutral City, as *Liege* or *Coleh*; but the true way to conclude the Affair, or to undeceive our selves by seeing that it cannot be terminated, will be, that after the King and the States have concerted their Union pursuant to the Proposal of the said *de Wit*, the latter to send Express to *Madrid* with utmost Dili-

gence, a Person well inform'd in, and able to treat of this Affair. The fittest of all seem to me to be Monsieur *van Benningen* or Monsieur *Beverning*, and to take Instructions afterwards; for if he has order to talk big in case of necessity, the *Spaniards* will pray, and we shall have Peace. I said the same thing to Monsieur *van Benningen* concerning this Envoy, and he took it as he ought; for a fresh and very sure mark of the evident Sincerity of the King's Intentions. You will judge farther, if Monsieur *de Wit* asks to have in writing what you are authoris'd to say in the Memorial, you are to excuse your self by alledging, that you have not yet receiv'd Information whether you may do it or not; but offer him for the help of his Memory to dictate the Substance in few words, as I have done here to Monsieur *van Benningen*.

After what is above was written, I receiv'd your dispatch of the 22d. His Majesty is very glad to hear the very good Effect, which what Monsieur *de Turenne* charg'd the Marquis *d'Estrades* to say to the States, has had. By that they may know, that the Orders which he gives the Generals of his Armies, agree intirely with what he has order'd to be said to them besides on the Subject of the Accommodation, and his wholly pacific Intentions, if the *Spaniards* don't force him to reassume martial Thoughts.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: September 29. 1667.

Affairs are in the same State which I advis'd you last Post, except that the States have press'd the Departure of Monsieur *Meerman* for England, which is to be within two Days.

The Occasion of this hasty Voyage is a Letter which the King has written to the States, the most obliging

obliging that any King ever wrote to them. He tells them, that he impatiently desires the Arrival of their Ambassador, to give him marks of his true and sincere Friendship; he has other very engaging Expressions which tend to great Alliances. When I heard the Contents of the said Letter, and earnest haste of the Province of *Holland* to oblige the *Sieur Meerman* to depart alone, without staying for his Collegues, I was at *Monsieur de Wit's* and told him, that I believ'd 'twould be better to stay the return of *Monsieur van Benningen*, to know the King's Answer, before they oblig'd *Monsieur Meerman* to depart, who being in *England* might perhaps engage in Measures contrary to our Interest. He answer'd me, that he did what he could to defer his Voyage, but that not being able to succeed, he was oblig'd to follow the Sentiments of the Majority of the Cities; that *Monsieur Meerman* was one of his Friends, and depended on him; that he assur'd me, that he would do nothing without communicating it to *Monsieur de Ruigny*, and acting in concert with him on Affairs, and pray'd me to write to the said *Sieur de Ruigny*, to confide in the said *Meerman*, as charg'd to do nothing without his Participation.

I wrote to *Monsieur de Ruigny* by the *Sieur de Meerman*, conform to what is above, and communicated my Letter to *Monsieur de Wit*, who found it according to what he had said to me.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: September 30, 1667.

HIS Majesty desires that you will take Care to send a Copy of his Memorial to *Mons. de Petasone*, cypher'd with the Cypher which you use betwixt you, not in order to treat of any Affair in the Court where he is, but that the knowledge of it may the better

better direct his Conduct in his Negotiations: I write this Evening to the said *Sieur de Pomponne* the Order which his Majesty has given you.

In a Conversation which I had Yesterday with the Arch-Bishop of *Ambrun*, he inform'd me of a Particular, which I think might perhaps not be improper to impart to *Monf. de Wis*; and this will yet confirm me in the Opinion, that with regard to the Queen's Renunciation, he took the Affair more right, than *Monf. van Benningen* seem'd to do here in several Discourses, but not very perswasive ones, which he made to incline the King to what his Majesty will never do; this Particular is, That the *Sieur d'Ambrun* conversing alone, some days before he left *Madrid*, with the Duke of *Medina de los Torres*, who is entrusted with the care of the Foreign Northern Affairs, and falling on the said Renunciation, the said Duke told him, That 'twas not ever to be hop'd that the *Junto* of the Government, or that of the State, should ever advise the Queen of *Spain* to sign any Act by which they should admit the said Renunciation to be null and invalid; to which the Arch-Bishop answer'd, That an Accommodation was then impossible, and that 'twould be in vain to think of it before by a ten Years War both sides would be tir'd, or one of them succumb; the said Duke then immediately reply'd, Not in the least, for the Accommodation ought to be made, and may always be negotiated or concluded on the foot of the Conquests which the King your Master has, or shall make, without entring on the Renunciation on either side; to which the Arch-Bishop acquiesc'd, and for Confirmation of what the said Duke had said, added, that as the King did not think it necessary to the better proof of the Invalidity of the Queen's Renunciation to exact an Act from the *Spaniards*, he also clearly saw that they thought it unnecessary to the fuller Proof of the Validity of the said Renunciation to require any express Instrument from his Majesty.

I also thought fit to send you, to shew *Monf. de Wit*, the Article of a Dispatch of the late *Henry the Great*, taken from a Book of the whole Negotiation of *Ver-vin's*, which was some days past printed; by which you will see what *Henry the Great* answer'd to an Instance then made to him for a Cessation of Arms; you will see that the Case in a surprizing manner hits that at present, that good Sense is always the same, and appears to be so at all times; and that the King, without knowing any thing of it, answer'd exactly as the King his Grandfather did.

The King has lately declar'd a new General, and his Determination has receiv'd, of all those who have been acquainted with it, its deserv'd Applause; his Majesty designing to have an Army of at least twenty five thousand Men on the *Rhine*, to meet the Body which the *Spaniards* design to march from the Hereditary States of *Austria* to the *Netherlands*, and oppose their Passage, thought that he could not place at the Head of this Army a Person near so well able to command it as the Prince of *Condé*, whose bare Name, and known as well as so often try'd great Qualities even on the *Rhine*, will not contribute less to strengthen our Friends in their good Intentions, than to strike Terror, and that with Reason, into all those who would hurt us. 'Tis scarce conceivable in what Transport of Joy the Prince was, when the King declar'd to him his Intention. He is return'd to *Chantilly* for some days to set his Affairs right, and return to his Government of *Burgundy* on the 15th of the next Month, to begin to take care of the veteran Troops, and new Levies which are to compose the Army, as they arrive. The Duke of *Angum* will have the Command of the Horse.

Sign'd, De Lionne.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: October 6, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch by my Courier, and the Duplicate by the Post; nothing can be more moderate than the Contents of the King's Memorial, which confirms what his Majesty has always said, that he would make appear the Desire which he had to procure the Peace of Christendom, by the moderate Conditions with which he would content himself; his Majesty's Conduct at this time confounds his Enemies, who give out every where that he aims at being universal Monarch, and are asham'd to see his Majesty entertain such handsom and disinterested Sentiments for the sake of Peace.

I immediately went to Monsr. *de Wit*; and read to him the King's Memorial, and what was proper for him to know in your two Dispatches; he rejoyc'd at the King's Answer, which he found very prudent and reasonable, and told me that he should always remain in the Sentiments which he had express'd to Monsieur *Courtin* and me; that his Advice shou'd be to satisfy his Majesty's Demands, but that he was oblig'd to manage the Inclinations of the *Hollanders* to make 'em relish this Answer, and dispose 'em to give the necessary Orders for the advancement of this Peace; that 'twas three Months since he made me this Proposal, at which time he saw all the Cities dispos'd to push the Affair against the *Spaniards*, in case of a Refusal on their part; that at present eleven Cities are inclin'd to receive their Offers, which they have augmented within these two days with the Cities of *Bruges*, *Venlo* and *Ruremonde*, and what they possess in the Country beyond the *Maes*, in case that they will assist them with a Sum of four Millions, and grant them the Troops which they will take into Service; that all the Places shall remain in the States Possession till the entire Payment; these

these great Offers divided the Affections of the People, which are not easily govern'd; that nevertheless he would labour to the utmost of his Power in every thing when Monsieur *van Benningen* should arrive, and would make his report to the Commissioners of secret Affairs. That he observ'd a difficulty in two Points, the one is, to oblige the *Spaniards* to treat with the King of *Portugal* from King to King; the other, that the Suspension of Arms is not general, for to commit Acts of Hostility in the Field is to continue the War, and that the true Suspension of Arms would be to cause all Acts of Hostility to cease, as well in the Cities as in the Country, and even the levying of Contributions: That the Copy of the Letter of the late King *Henry* the Great, could not serve as an Instance concerning the Suspension of Arms, because that King had been wanting to the Treaties which he had made with the States if the Suspension had been general; but that the King being free, and having no Engagement with any Allies, which cou'd receive any Prejudice by it, he thought 'twou'd very much facilitate the Accommodation, to begin with a Suspension of Arms without exception.

That as for the Rupture with *Spain*, in case it refus'd the Conditions specified in the said Memorial, he only alledg'd that of himself, as 'tis yet his Opinion, but not on the Part and by the Authorization of the States, as the King seem'd to believe in his Memorial; that there were Measures to be taken with his Masters in some Conjunctions, which would not take place in others; that he could have gone a great way three Months past with all *Holland*, that he could not at present assure four Cities would be inclin'd to a Rupture, in case of the *Spaniards* refusal; but that the Affair must be negotiated, and that he would not forget any thing to facilitate that great Work, and turn their Inclinations into the same Channel again, in which they were three Months past; that he desir'd me to give him a Copy of my Dispatches, to act with the greater force, without

without which he could not fall into the Measures requisite to be taken to form a successful Resolution. The Conclusion was, that *Monf. van Benningen* was very strongly perswaded that the Peace could not be lasting, if the King did not confirm the Queen's Renunciation; that he believ'd that several of the States were of that Opinion, and that for himself he was not far from it, and that instead of no delay in this Affair, 'twas requisite to wait the Arrival of *Monsieur van Benningen*: I own that on all abovemention'd I found him cooler than usual, and knowing him so well as I do, thought it my Duty to answer of my self.

That if he did not see the Advantage of the States, in the disinterested Answer which the King had made, to which he was more inclin'd for their Interest than his own, he need only tell me when he had conferr'd with those who were to take Cognisance of the Affair, because the King having satisfy'd his Conscience, and the desire of his Allies for the promotion of Peace, by reducing his great Rights and Pretensions to so small a matter; and this conduct of his Majesty having produc'd nothing with the States, besides the apparent Jealousies which could be conceiv'd by none but ill dispos'd Minds, he will draw the advantage from it of clearly seeing his Interests, and taking just Measures without losing time.

That as for the *Portuguese Treaty*, what I read to him out of one of our Dispatches, shews that it would be no Obstacle to the Treaty; that the point of Suspension of Arms, the King consenting to, it as express'd in the Memorial, it secures the Towns on both sides, which answers the main end of the Suspension, which is to prevent the hindrance of the Negotiation by the conquest of any considerable Place.

That the Contributions ought to continue, as being a dependance on the Places which were taken; that during the Negotiation of the *Pyrenean Treaty* the Contributions were continu'd, and all the remains of them not paid were discharg'd even after the Peace.

That

That if he persisted in the Impressions which *Monf. van Benningen* had given him by his Letters, that 'twas not possible for the Accommodation to be secure without the King by some Act confirm'd the Queen's Renunciation, I could at present assure him, that his Majesty would never do it; and that if he, or others perswaded themselves that his Majesty would even barely suffer that Proposal, they would be very much deceiv'd, and that it was much better to continue the War, than to enter on any Negotiation with such Thoughts. I believe he will consider of the Answer I made him. I thought I ought to do it, that at his first meeting with *Monf. van Benningen*, they may be perswaded that if they proceed to the end of the Affair, pursuant to the Proposal made by the *Sieur de Wit*, the King will not hear of any Accommodation.

I refus'd him a Copy of my Dispatches, alledging that I could not give it him without order, but that I would write to you this Post. If *Monsieur van Benningen* has not before his Departure written the Substance of the Points contain'd in the King's Memorial, 'twill be impossible for *Monsieur de Wit* to negotiate with so many People before he has a Copy of the said Memorial; and, Sir, you will give me leave to tell you, that 'tis drawn up with so much Prudence and Precaution, and so clearly shews the King's Generosity, and great Inclination for Peace, that I should desire, if possible, that there were Copies of it dispers'd in all the Cities of *Holland*, and also in all the neighbouring Kingdoms, that it might be universally applauded.

Next *Tuesday* I send a Copy by the Post to *Monsieur de Ponspene*, as you order'd me.

I shall not sign the King's Memorial till the Arrival of *Monsieur van Benningen*, and I have had a Conference on the Contents of it with *Monsieur de Wit*, and the Deputies of secret Correspondence.

As Monsieur *de Wit* and I were just on the Point of parting, it came in my Mind to tell him, that the King understood *Tournesham* and its Bailliages and Dependencies to be comprehended in the Government of *St. Omer*, which 'twas proper to explain; to avoid falling into the Inconveniencies in which we were, when we treated of the Limits after the Peace, the King being to have for his Partition the Dependances of *Therrenanne* which was call'd a Bailliage, and when we came to the Regulation, it appear'd that there was no Bailliage but a *Terrage*, or Party Right on the Produce of the Ground; so that we lost many Villages, which would have remain'd to *France*, if the word *Terrage* had been inserted; on which I told him, of my self, that if *Tournesham* was not nam'd in the Demands, as being a Dependant on *St. Omer*, the *Spaniards* might say, after the Treaty was concluded, that it is not so, but a separate *Capitanerie* or Jurisdiction, and a dismembring of the Earldom of *Guines*, which was given for part of the Ransom of *Francis* the First; and that whatsoever Peace *Charles* the Fifth, or *Philip* the Second made with *France*, they still kept the said Barony of *Tournesham* separate, and disengag'd from the other Governments. I believe that to avoid disputes, 'twould not be amiss to name the Barony of *Tournesham* with its Bailliage and Dependances in the King's Pretensions, by which means his Majesty would possess all *Artois*, without leaving the King of *Spain* any of it. Its Situation betwixt *Artois* and *St. Omer* is considerable, as well as the many noble Fiefs which depend on it, which are said to amount to sixteen thousand. I am, &c.

From

From the most Christian King to the States-General of the United Provinces of the Low-Countries : October 12, 1667.

MOST Dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, the Conduct of our Ambassadors, during the Course of the Negotiation of the Peace happily concluded at *Breda* betwixt *France, England,* and your States, having by advance shewn you the most sincere Desire which we have always had to procure your Peace, by putting a stop to a War in which we had not entred, but to discharge the Duty of our Alliance, and for the sole Maintenance of your Repose; we cannot doubt, but the Sense of this has made you conceive all favourable Sentiments for us, which you testify; but you also ought to be perswaded, with the same Justice, that the Assurances which you give us of your Acknowledgment, will more and more confirm the good Inclinations which we have for all that regards your Interests, and that all Occasions which shall offer of giving you fresh Proofs of it will be very agreeable to us. So we pray God, most dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, that he will hold you in his holy and beneficent Care. Written at *St. Germain en Laye* on the 12th of *October, 1667.*

Your good Friend, Ally, and Confederate,

Sign'd, *LOUIS.*

And lower, *De Lionne.*

The Superscription was,

To our most dear great Friends, Allies, and Confederates, the Lords the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne : October 13, 1667.

WHEN I was beginning this Letter, Monsieur *van Benningen* came to see me. I observ'd by his Discourse, that he does not believe that the Accommodation can be concluded, without specifying that the Cession of the Places which are to be given is to confirm the Renunciation: I also am inform'd from certain Places, that he has insinuated that the Security of the States consists in avoiding by that means a new War; you know him, and that abounding in his own Sense, and having Interest at *Amsterdam*, 'twill not be hard for him to encline them to follow his Opinion; he is to go thither to morrow.

He ask'd of me a Copy of the King's Memorial; for having made his Report to the States, he told them that you affirm'd to him, that I had Orders to confer with the States on this Affair, and that you had only by word of Mouth told him the Conditions: That to authorise him to his Masters, 'twas necessary that I should give him the said Copy: I told him, that I read the Memorial to Monsieur *de Wit*, that he with his own hand took a Copy of the Conditions, and that he might know from him whether they agreed with what you had told him.

Monsieur *de Wit* and he have some reason for not treating on this Affair with the States on what is said to them by word of Mouth, and without any Writing; this is not the Practice here; and when the Commissioners of secret Affairs meet, they will not fail to ask of me in writing the Conditions with which the King will content himself, and you having forbid me to deliver them, Affairs will stop till I have an Answer to this Dispatch. I also observ'd that Monsieur *van Benningen* believes, that the States cannot consent to meddle in the Affair, if they are not assur'd of the Renunciation; and also maintains, by the strong Reasons which
his

his Eloquence suggests to him, that the *Spaniards* cannot consent to any Accommodation, without this condition of the Renunciation takes place. He says, that the Interest of the King of *Portugal* is a stumbling Block, that the *Spaniards* had much rather resolve to treat with the King of *Portugal* directly from King to King to make a League against *France*, than they would do it to give to *France* what they believ'd they did not owe him.

I don't know what were his Sentiments when he left you, but from what I can learn from my particular Friends, and which are in the King's Interest, he is perswaded that a great League may be made with the Emperor, the King of *Sweden* and the King of *England*, to oppose the Conquests of his Majesty, in case that he will not consent that the said Renunciation subsist. I see very clearly that he has perswaded Monsieur *de Wit* to this point. I thought I ought to give you Advice before-hand, and impart to you all above written. I answer my Friends, conform to the King's and your Dispatches. The Distrust is very great, and the *Spaniards* made use of the Occasion, as they did at the Treaty of *Munster*, by trying all ways to remove the States from our Interest.

From the King to the Count D'Estades :
October 14, 1667.

LIONNE has read to me your Dispatch of the 6th of this Month, in which, to say truth, I expected to find the great Thanks of the *Sieur de Wit*, for so many Advances with which I furnish'd the States to make way for their negotiating a Peace this Winter, accepting without any alteration the Proposals of the said *Sieur de Wit*, and adding also other Offers beyond their hopes. Yet I observe nothing but Coolness on the part of that Minister, and new Difficulties to di-

minish the merit of my Conduct and Moderation, as well as the Obligation which the States ought to have to me. I shall defer making a more certain Judgment of this whole Affair 'till the arrival of the *Sieur van Benningen*, 'till he has been heard, and they give you a distinct Answer on my Offers; but this Beginning makes me Prognostick no good: Also I may beforehand tell you, that if they continue then to talk to me in the same tone, which the said *de Wit* did at first, I shall soon make my choice, and I am sure a good one, and not therein meet with all the Difficulties which the States may imagine.

I am advis'd from the *Hague* also, that the *Sieur Meerman*, who they oblig'd to go with so much Precipitation to *England*, is charg'd with the making Proposals of a League against my Crown, on the Word of the King of *England*, which the *Spanish* Ministers pretend to have drawn from him, that he will faithfully keep the Secret of the States, and not disclose it to set them at variance with me. If things go in this manner, as I am very punctually inform'd they do, it cannot seem strange to the States that I also think of my self, and make use of all the means which occur to my Mind.

I sincerely desire Peace: I have demonstratively prov'd this Truth, by the intire Acceptance of a Proposal which came from the *Sieur de Wit* himself, to which I have also added an Alternative which the *Spaniards* cannot with Justice and Decency refuse, since I have declar'd that I will lay down my Arms and sacrifice all my hopes to the publick Peace, contenting my self with what I have already possess'd my self of, and they won't easily take from me: If all these facilitating Advances are not sufficient to hinder my Allies, in whose Hands I can say I have put a certainty of Peace, from themselves proposing Leagues to enter into a War against me, separate themselves from their Alliance with me without any necessity, and that in an unfair manner, a Moment after they had felt such advantageous

geous Effects of it two Years before, and which put me to very considerable Expences, I hope that I shall be sufficiently justified before God and Men, with regard to all the Resolutions which I may take to secure my self from an Evil, which I have not deserv'd by either my past or present Proceedings. I am notwithstanding yet willing to believe, that the Arrival of the *Sieur van Benningen*, who seem'd to me very well dispos'd at his departure, will yet serve to redress all things, and that the States, having, as I have already said, the certainty of Peace in their Hands, if they will only speak with Resolution to the *Spaniards*, will rather espouse the part of Honour, Honesty, Gratitude and their true Interest, which is doubtless to keep themselves fix'd to the Friendship of this Crown, than without any Necessity expose themselves to a new War, the Success of which will be still very uncertain, tho' even most of the other Potentates should make Leagues against me, which I yet hope will not happen.

What I have said on the Proposals of the League in *England*, which the *Sieur Meerman* may be charg'd with, on that pretended Promise of the King of *England*, faithfully to keep their Secret; I say also on the other Affair mention'd in your last Dispatch of the pretended Offers which the *Spaniards* made to the States to yield to them *Bruges, Venlo, Ruremonde*, and what remains to them of the *Ultramesan* Country, if the State will assist them with the Sum of four Millions, and fraudulently allow as many of their Troops to go into their Service as they will receive; for I shall make no difference betwixt such a Convention made by my Allies with my Enemies, and that of a formal and open League against me: And really, if Allies which are by Treaty oblig'd to be Guarantees of all my Rights, and from whom they have already found so much Profit at my Expence, not only don't defend my said Rights, but assist my very Enemies with their Forces and Mony, to furnish them with Means to withdraw themselves out of a necessity of do-

ing me Justice, there never was any formal Infraction of a Treaty, if this is not so; and you may distinctly declare to the *Sieur de Wit*, that if his Masters incline to any thing of that Nature, I shall have all the reason in the World to make no distinction betwixt the one League and the other. •

As for the Difficulties which the *Sieur de Wit* spoke of, the one regarding *Portugal*, and the other the Queen's Renunciation, I am certain that they appear more so in the Minds of the Mediators, as it happens at this time, than in the Inclinations of the *Spaniards*, and especially if they are talk'd to resolutely:

For in the first place, as to what regards *Portugal*, I receiv'd Yesterday News from *Lisbon* which inform me, that the *English* Envoy at last propos'd on the part of the *Spaniards*, to treat from King to King, and that he was answer'd that they would impart the Offer to me, and that they could not conclude any thing without me: So that, that Obstacle is remov'd, unless they will imagine that the *Spaniards* would not do the same thing in making the Peace jointly, as separately: But the most difficult step being made, 'twill not be very hard, by talking to them resolutely, to encline them to yield as well in one case as the other.

As for the Renunciation, the sole Discourse, which I have imparted to you, which the Duke of *Medina* had on that Subject with the Archbishop of *Ambrun*, ought to make one conclude that the Difficulty, as I have said, is more in the fear of the Interpositors than in the Disposition of my Enemies, who themselves search after ways to surmount this Difficulty. Concerning the Suspension, after the Expedient to which I have consented, which secures all the Towns in *Flanders* for six Months, and which is also all that the States, to dissipate their pretended Jealousies, can desire, if they should press me to something farther in this Point, I should have reason to believe that they have no other Intentions in it, than to encline me to make a step which gives room or pretext to the King
of

of *Portugal* to agree with my Enemies exclusive of me; if the *Sieur de Wit* has seen my Treaty with that King, he will have observ'd, that with regard to him I am just in the same Case which the King my Grandfather was with the States, that is, not able to make either Peace or Treaty any otherwise than jointly.

The *Sieur de Wit* must have a very ill Memory, if he does not remember the Propositions which came from himself, to which, for the greater facility of the Negotiation, I have added only the Alternative of continuing in Possession of what I have: So that I don't see the necessity which you say there is of having a Copy of my Memorial, for the Provinces to deliberate on; they never 'till now talk'd to me of any thing more than a Communication to the Commissioners of secret Affairs; and those of this Nature can so ill succeed without Secresie, that I believe one of the most important Particulars in order to good Success, is that the Person which the States may resolve to send to *Madrid*, arrive there without the *Spaniards* beforehand having any knowledge of his Commission; for otherwise those amongst them which don't desire the Peace, will spend their whole time in applying themselves to find out ways to elude the Design of the States to oblige them at any rate whatsoever.

With this, if the said *de Wit* persists in desiring that you give him some of that Memorial in Writing, to shew yet with what Sincerity I act, I think fit that you do it, reducing its whole length, which is easie to do, into a few substantial Lines; in which you must not omit the Satisfaction of *Portugal*, and the Obligation of the States concerning what they are to do, if the *Spaniards* obstinately persist in refusing the Peace, on the Conditions to which I have acquiesced in consideration of the said Estates.

I very much commended your Zeal in what you propose concerning *Tourneham* and its Bailliage; but don't think that for so small a thing I ought to enlarge my Proposal, or to speak juster, to add to that of the

said *de Wit*: You may only tell him, making use of Time and Place as much as possible, that in the Dependences of *St. Omer*, I understand the said *Tourneham* and its Bailliage are comprehended: You may also, in demanding *Aire* and *St. Omer*, say, and in general all in *Artois* which remains in the Hands of *Spain*.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: October 14, 1667.*

THE King being inform'd, that a certain Book, which one nam'd *Auboy* has lately caus'd to be printed, entituled, *The Rights of the King on the Empire*, makes a great noise in the World, and that the Enemies take occasion in several Princes Courts to draw Consequences from it which are very disadvantageous to his Majesty, as tho' he had form'd a Design of invading the Territories of other Princes according as occasions may offer: His Majesty, to make appear to the Publick how much he himself disapproves that Book, has began with the Chastisement of the Author, whom he has caus'd to be put in the *Bastille*; besides which, in truth, he never had any knowledge of this Book before it appear'd in Publick, as is observable from the King's Privilege, which the said *Auboy* had the Impudence to place at the beginning of it, which is dated in 1649, during our great Commotions; and perhaps this Privilege it self may be false or surreptitiously obtain'd, which we are going to examine. However, I don't believe that any Person can say that the King, in the time of the intestine Division, and in his Minority, thought much of an universal Monarchy, which Thoughts his Enemies maliciously and falsely attribute to him.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
October 20, 1667.

YOUR Majesty will have seen, by the two last Dispatches which I wrote to Monsieur de Lionne, what pass'd betwixt Messieurs de Wit, van Benningen and me, in the Conferences which we have had together on the Contents of your Majesty's Memorial, and all the Replies which I made them on the Difficulties which they started to me on the Conditions propos'd by the Sieur de Wit.

Afterwards I had two Conferences on the same Subject with them both, but Mons. van Benningen did not yield on the Renunciation, which he maintain'd to be necessary, or that otherwise the Peace could not be lasting, and that the States would be continually expos'd to the same danger of seeing the Low-Countries conquer'd by your Majesty; to which he added, that 'twas not possible to treat on any thing, if the Accommodation of the King of Portugal was inserted, it being an Infraction of the Treaty which they have with the King of Spain, nor could they take up Arms to force that King to yield the Places which your Majesty demands; all this was maintain'd by the said van Benningen with so much vehemence, that I thought fit to break off the Conversation, after having sufficiently clear'd to him that the Portugal Treaty was not an Affair that would stop the Negotiation, the Parties being already agreed to treat directly from King to King: And that for the Renunciation, *Medina de las Torres* had given Monsieur d'Ambrun to understand that it ought not to be mention'd on either side, which ought to have been sufficient to any Spirit less passionate than his. We parted in this manner, and I went next day to Mons. de Wit, whom I found more reasonable to treat with alone on the Subject. He told me, he passionately desir'd to find some Expedient to end this Affair; that

'twas

'twas impossible it could pass in the States, as it was couch'd in your Majesty's Memorial; that at first sight all the Cities would refuse it, on the point of breaking with *Spain* on the Subject of the Accommodation with the King of *Portugal*, who was never mention'd in the Propositions which he made, so was a new Case which chang'd the whole Affair; that he believ'd that the States would give your Majesty Assurance that they would strenuously and vigorously employ their good Offices, to oblige the *Spaniards* to consent to treat directly from King to King with *Portugal*; but that they could not promise to force them by way of Arms, and break the Treaty of Alliance which they had made with them, without any reason; that we might couch a Project, such an one as he wish'd the States could agree on, and communicate it to your Majesty, to act afterwards according as you should approve of it; that he would do all in his Power to dispose the Minds of the Assembly to speak no more of the Renunciation; that your Majesty is entreated to consider that so great an Affair as this, which depends on the Consent of so many Heads, is not treated without management, which is not practis'd in Kingdoms where the Kings will decide all that is necessary: But in a Republick, time is necessary to negotiate and dispose Affairs to the desired end.

After this we couch'd the Articles of this Project, which the *Sieur de Wit* believ'd might pass his Masters, if your Majesty agreed to it.

And the third Article not distinguishing your Majesty from the King of *Spain*, I told him that the term of Refuser ought to be apply'd only to the King of *Spain*, and not to your Majesty: He answer'd me, that he understood it so, and that your Majesty contenting himself with the Places specify'd in his Memorial, could never be Refuser, and did not run any risque of having the Arms against him; and that he hop'd, that afterwards the States would press you to make the Exchange of the propos'd Places, for those which your
Majesty

Majesty had conquer'd, because of the Neighbourhood of their Country, and he should be better able to engage the said States and the *Spaniards* to consent to it, your Majesty remaining Master of the conquer'd Places, than if the first Proposition was made.

As Affairs with these People here are not done at once, I thought it requisite to enter into the Matter my self, the whole being remitted to your Majesty's Examination to augment or diminish as you shall judge proper, without your being engag'd to any thing by this Project, which will yet be useful to break the Measure which the *Spaniards* use all ways to take in the Cities, which will resolve on nothing with them, whilst they expect an Accommodation.

Monsieur *de Wit* entreated, that we should go together to Monsieur *van Beuningen* to communicate the Project, because 'tis absolutely necessary to manage him, and that he agree to it, to bring over to it the City of *Amsterdam*, where he is omnipotent. He had a great deal of difficulty to bring him to agree to leave out the Renunciation; but he consented at last, and promis'd his good Offices with his Masters.

I gave Monsieur *de Wit* the Copy of the Contents of your Majesty's Memorial concerning the two Propositions of Accommodation, and reduc'd the whole Length of it to a few substantial Lines, in which I did not omit the Satisfaction of *Portugal*, and the Obligation what the States were to do, if the *Spaniards* obstinately persisted in the Refusal of the Peace, on the Conditions to which your Majesty had acquiesc'd in consideration of the said States.

I spake to the *Sieur de Wit* on what your Majesty says in your Dispatch of the fourteenth, that 'twas to be wish'd that the Person which the States should dispatch to *Madrid*, went thither so secretly that the *Spaniards* might know nothing of it; on which he answer'd me, that could not be, and that the Constitution of the State would not allow of forming such a Resolution without the Assembly of the States of *Holland*,

land, and the Communication of it to the Provinces, to act otherwise being a Breach of the Union.

That both the one and the other, on a greater Affair, could empower the Commissioners of Secret Correspondence to take cognisance of it alone, which was what he would labour at to get their Consent.

He told me, that the *Steur de Meerman* had no other Order from the States, than to transact the Treaty of the Renovation of Commerce, and settle a good Friendship for the future with the King of *England*.

That he had also Order to pray the said King to join his good Offices for the Accommodation betwixt your Majesty and the *Spaniards*, in order to procure the Peace of *Flanders*; that this is couch'd in his Instructions in such terms as cannot shock his Majesty, and is very far from intending the making of a League against him: He assur'd me, that the States would not make any League, nor accept any of the *Spanish* Propositions, so long as they believ'd your Majesty intended an Accommodation; but if the contrary appear'd, they should take care to secure themselves against the Neighbourhood of *France*, whose great Power might quickly oppress them.

I answer'd, that this Discourse was ambiguous, and that 'twas possible they might at present take the Measures towards a League, under pretext of an Accommodation. This was all that pass'd betwixt us, and your Majesty will permit me to tell you, with the Zeal and Affection which I have for your Service, that the surest way is to secure your self by Alliances with as many Princes as possible, in case that the Peace does not happen to succeed.

When I had finish'd this Dispatch, *Monsieur de Wit* and *van Benningen* came to desire me to write to your Majesty, that they begg'd you'd depend on them, and they would carry the Affair in such a manner as should prove to your Majesty's intire Satisfaction; but that 'tis absolutely Necessary that it be began according to the Project, to remove the Jealousie which most
of

of the Cities have of *France*: that they don't doubt to bring it about with a little *Persistence*. I found *Monsieur van Beuningan* quite alter'd, and he told me that he was yesterday put to the Torture to be a *Spaniard*, but that he was intirely *French*: And he was now going for *Amsterdam*, where he would dispose his Friends more than ever to unite with *France*. *Monsieur de Wit* goes to the other Cities, and at my Return from *Boisleduc*, where I go to see my Son who is very sick, I shall touch at *Leyden*, *Rotterdam* and *Delft*, where I have Friends.

A Project of Accommodation sent to the King from the Hague: October 20, 1667.

THAT the State cannot resolve to force the King of *Spain* by Arms, to pass the Conditions which we would have serve as a Foundation to a Treaty of Peace, for the Reasons by word of Mouth alledg'd to the Count d'*Estrades*, and at this present Conjunction in which the Inclinations are divided, 'tis not thought in any sort necessary; and the rather, because his most Christian Majesty having declar'd himself content to make Peace, keeping what he has already taken by force of Arms, in case that the *Spaniards* don't rather chuse to yield him the other Conditions propos'd on his Part, 'tis not to be doubred but his Majesty will consider the Possession of what he has of the *Spaniards* in his Hands, as a compulsive Argument of sufficient force to incline them to be content with an Accommodation, and that all that can be reasonably ask'd of the States, after this, is that they will concur to hinder his Majesty's being interrupted in the said Possession, tho' the Peace should not be made, on which his Majesty may have Satisfaction in manner following.

That

That the States-General are to oblige themselves, and endeavour reciprocally to oblige, to the following Points and Articles, the Princes of *Germany*, and particularly those at present assembled at *Collen*, and in general all Princes, who shall probably be capable of disturbing the Appearance of the Peace, by the weight which they may bring by joining their Arms to either the one or the other side.

I. To use their good Offices with the Kings of *France* and *Spain*, to begin a Negotiation in a neutral Place, as the *Hague*, or some other in its Neighbourhood.

II. To dispose the two Parties to consent to it; that in the mean while, by way of Interim; for the term of six Months, Affairs shall be left on the Foot and in the Posture they at present are by the Chance of Arms, in hopes that within that time a Negotiation for a perpetual Peace may succeed.

III. In case of the Refusal on either side, of the projected Interim, to withdraw all friendly Offices from the Refuser, and to yield all Aid and Assistance to the Acceptant; and even joining, in case of Necessity, Forces with him, to oblige effectually the Refuser to subscribe to it.

IV. In case that the Peace should not be concluded before the Expiration of the said term of six Months, the States and the said Princes shall be oblig'd to cause the said Interim to subsist and continue, 'till the final Conclusion of the said principal Treaty, and seriously apply themselves to make it succeed by proportionate Exchanges, or other reasonable Conditions; but in case of an ill grounded Obstinacy, also make use against the Refuser, of the Means specify'd in the third Article, so to extinguish intirely a Fire which 'gives so much apprehension of breaking out into a Flame amongst all the Neighbours, nay even all over Christendom.

V. And to the End that there may not be any remainder of the said Fire nor well put out, which may kindle into a new War, the States and said Princes oblige

lige themselves together to a Guarantee, the most Solemn and Strongest that can be made, for the punctual Observation of all the Conditions of the said Treaty of Peace.

And tho' all above is couch'd in Terms which seem indifferently to concern *Spain* and *France*, this cannot diminish the Satisfaction which the Most Christian King ought to have, till a sure way be propos'd to him to attain his Ends; the States being oblig'd on their Part to make use of this manner of Proceeding, to draw into the said Design several *German* Princes, which without it may be inclin'd to more dangerous Resolutions for them and for *France*.

It seems reasonable and also satisfactory to the King's Intention, that during the Interim his Majesty keep and remain in Possession, not only of the Places conquer'd by his Arms, but also on the Castellanies and other Dependances on them, the Contributions ceasing in the Countries which don't depend on them; as also at the same time all the like Contributions which the *Spaniards* draw from his Majesty's Territories to cease.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: October 21, 1667.*

THE King has no reason to promise himself much from the Success of the Affair in question, on the first Discourse which we had of *Monf. van Benningen*, since he is perswaded that his Majesty ought to purchase Peace by a general Renunciation of all his future Rights; that Minister would be more clear-sighted, and see farther into Futurity than the *Spaniards* themselves, which pretend no more at present than to extricate themselves out of very ill Circumstances, according to the Discourse which the Duke of *Medina* had with *Monfieur d'Ambrun*, which I advis'd you of, and which ought to be always your Buckler against these

these sorts of unjust Attacks, adding always this express Declaration, That whatever may happen, his Majesty will not in any manner enter on the Point of either Rights which may accrue by the Death of the King of Spain, who God be thank'd is very well in health, and by the Mercy of Heaven may have a long train of successive Heirs; however these Gentlemen may remember on all Occasions, that his Majesty has put a certainty of Peace into their Hands, on the same Conditions which the principal Directors of the States desir'd of him, and if this cannot produce any Effect, the King will be discharg'd before God and Men, and will know what choice to make, which will certainly be a good one.

What surpris'd me the most, is what you tell me that Mons. *van Benningen* perswaded Mons. *de Wit*, who never said any thing like it, as Mons. *Courtin* assures me; yet all that I send are only preliminary Discourses; for the King ought to delay determining, to know the express Resolutions of the State on the Report of the said *van Benningen*, and 'till then suspend all Affairs, and even his Judgment on what they will and will not do, so much the rather because it may be, that tho' they should intend to unite with us, and finish betwixt the King and the States the Concert which the said *de Wit* propos'd, to which his Majesty consented, they will continually talk to you about the Queen's Renunciation, to endeavour to tear it from his Majesty in the Conditions of the Accommodation; but apply a good Defence to a good Attack.

In the mean while, you may judge whether the present Conduct of Allies so much oblig'd, ought much to incline his Majesty to order you to put in their hand Propositions which bind them, since they will remain intirely free, and besides threaten to set all the Earth to arm and confederate against this Crown; these are not ways to dispose great Kings to do what they desire of 'em; Affection and Confidence may do more with them than the threats of Violence, and particularly

larly when 'tis unjust, and they are so far from having done any thing to draw it on them, that they have done every thing to avoid it. His Majesty is yet more surpris'd with one Circumstance which came to him from *Madrid* within a few Days; they have always told you that the *Spaniards* have offer'd Towns or Pledges to the States, to draw from them the Loan of Troops and Money, whilst the Proposal comes from *Monsi. de Wit* alone; and that is so true, that the Council of State of *Spain*, and that of the six Regents call'd the *Junta del Governo*, has externally highly blam'd their Ministers which have given ear to a Proposition of this Nature, pretending doubtless to be assisted *gratis*. So that if the States for the future attempt any thing against the King, whose Rights they are yet oblig'd to guard, it will no longer appear to proceed from an advantageous Interest, but from Wantonness; but in what manner soever the thing happens, you have seen in the precedent Dispatch what his Majesty's Sentiments are on it, to which I have nothing to add, nor any thing to alter.

All that I have said does not yet in the least diminish the Esteem and Affection which his Majesty always retains for *Monsi. de Wit*, and promises himself that having subscrib'd to all that he pretended to desire, and more, as is the Offer of the Alternative, he shall bring things to a safe Issue.

Memorial of the Count D'Estades presented to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: October 26; 1667.

THE Count *d'Estades*, Ambassador Extraordinary from *France*, has Order from the King his Master, to make Instance to your Lordships, that

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'twould please you to permit the Transportation of ten pieces of Cannon, being twenty four Pounders, two thirty six, and one eighteen Pounder, belonging to his Majesty, and remaining of the Equipment of his Squadron; which the said Ambassador hopes that your Lordships will willingly grant. Given at the Hague, October 26, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: October 27, 1667.

I Yesterday return'd from *Boisleduc*, coming through *Rotterdam*, *Leyden*, and *Delft*, where I saw my Friends, who have promis'd me to do Wonders in the Assembly which is to begin this Day. Monsieur *van Benningen* has done very well with his Masters of *Amsterdam*; he has made his Report in general Terms of the good Intentions of the King for the Peace, and there being some very secret and important Particulars to negotiate, he has ask'd the Assembly whether they did not think fit that they should be committed to the Commissioners of secret Correspondence, before they came before all the Provinces. On which they resolv'd to deliberate, and 'tis not to be doubted but the Province of *Holland* will conform to this Sentiment, Measures being taken in the Cities to that end.

At the Visit which Mons. *de Wit* gave me, I did not fail to speak to him of the Advice which you have receiv'd from *Madrid*. He answer'd me, that Affairs were not in that State; that he did not disown that when the Ministers of *Spain* and the Envoy of *Castel Roderigo* address'd to him to propose a League, and desir'd a Loan of Mony, he answer'd them, that he should never be of Opinion that the States should make any League against *France*, nor even that they should give the *Spaniards* any Assistance; but that if they were in necessity

necessity for Mony, he would do his best on the part of his Masters to prevail on them to buy *Ostend, Bruges, Damme*, the Forts of *St. Job* and *Isabelle*, and on the *Maese, Venlo* and *Ratremond*, without any other Condition than that of giving Mony for the Places which they should buy; and that this was all that pass'd. He told me besides, that in all the Conferences which he had had with the *Swedes*, and other Princes their Allies, he always had given them to understand that 'twas requisite to unite, and labour together to accommodate Affairs to the Satisfaction of his Majesty; that besides, lately the Elector of *Mentz* having sent his Nephew to him, to know his Sentiments on the said Accommodation, he told him his Scheme for to compass it, which is conform to the Demands which the King makes; and that his Majesty would see by his Conduct, that all that he did and said tended only to a good End, which is to obtain of the *Spaniards* what his Majesty desires, but that 'tis necessary for him sometimes to take a Circuit, having very difficult Inclinations to manage.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: October 28, 1667.*

TO say truth, to tell you my private Opinion, I own to you, that I was never more surpris'd than when I saw this Project, and in what manner they have shuffled the Cards in hand; no more being necessary to enable us to make a Reflection on it, than barely to see it. *Mons. de Wit* presses the King to explain in Confidence, the Conditions on which he would consent to an Accommodation, promising that if the States found them just, they might agree with his Majesty, and join their Forces to his to necessitate the *Spaniards* to accept them; the King on this explains himself; *Mons. de Wit* thinks the Conditions a little too high,

reduces them at his Pleasure, promising still the Conjunction of the States; his Majesty accommodates himself at last to all that he himself proposes and desires, and not only that, but the more to facilitate the Interest of the Peace, adds an Alternative, that he will lay down his Arms, and content himself with what he has taken; and when he had reason to expect great Thanks for so obliging a Procedure, and for all the Confidence he repos'd in them, and the facilitating Advances he had made, he finds that he has done nothing but told his Secret in vain, and that they would even make use of it against him, turning all things with such a Bias, that it may be said, that if the King accommodates himself to it, the States will be provided with his own Consent to contrive and form an hundred several Leagues against him.

This is what this fine Project appears to me at first view, but yet what I have said contains only my private Sentiments, and if you please, you are to stay 'till I impart to you in form those of the King, when I am better, and when I can have them from the source.

I will not conclude without remarking to you on the Word, the *Hague*, of which is spoken in your last Dispatch, as a Place where the Peace may be treated, that his Majesty consents to it willingly; but that first of all, 'tis requisite that the States who send Ambassadors to all Courts, should send one also to *Rome*, to dispose his Holiness, who is already accepted by the two Kings for Mediator, to send his Apostolical Ministers to the *Hague* also.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: .November 3, 1667.

I Have receiv'd your Dispatch of the 28th of the last Month, by which I see your Sentiment, and that you disapprove Mons. de Wir's Project. He protests
always

always to have no other Design than that of carrying Affairs according to the King's Intentions, and to cause him to obtain the Partition which he asks, or keep what he holds, but that in order to that, he is oblig'd to keep to Measures to induce the States to consent; that if the King does not put the Confidence in him, which he believes he deserves by the desire he has to serve him, that he will meddle no more in it; and that he manages the *German* Princes for no other end than to keep them from deviating, and that the States may keep them united for the same end, which is, that they may be in one and the same Sentiment, to tell the *Spaniards* resolutely that they must except the one or the other of the two Propositions; that the States will give Assurance to the King, that accepting one of the two Propositions in his Memorial, they will not hold him for the Refuser; so that this Condition will be wholly against *Spain*, in case that it rejects the Accommodation, and that the *Sieur de Wit* will not have any difficulty to cause the States to break, and join their Forces to those of his Majesty, since 'twill be a Condition agreed on betwixt them and the Princes of *Germany*.

That as to what regards the King of *Portugal*, the States will never oblige themselves to break with the King of *Spain* for his Interests, but that they will promise to use all good Offices in their Power to induce the *Spaniards* to treat with him, directly from King to King.

The States are content to treat on the Accommodation where his Majesty pleases, whether at *Colen*, *Aix*, *Liege*, *Maastricht*, or the *Hague*; and in what Place soever it is, they shall be very glad to see the Plenipotentiaries of his Holiness there.

What I send you, Sir, is only to give you an account of all that passes, and assure you, that in all the Conferences which I have had with Monsieur *de Wit*, and *van Benningen*, I have not relax'd any which was contain'd in the King's Memorial concerning the Conditions of the Accommodation; but Affairs are no longer

in the Posture they were, and 'tis not in the Power of Monsieur de Wit to encline the States to break with Spain. Monsieur van Benningen was propos'd by the Assembly of the States of Holland for two Employs, the one to be Collegue to Prince Maurice to the Emperor, and the other to return into France, to negotiate the Affair in his Hands. He excus'd them both, but will be oblig'd to accept one of them. I beg you, Sir, to reflect on the present State of the Affairs of this Country, and not to look on them as they were during the War with England, the Inclinations are chang'd; so that what Monsieur de Wit propos'd at that time, and what would have been infallibly agreed to by the States, and almost by his Masters, cannot at present be done without changing the Form of the Proposition, but still keeping the Substance, which is, to make that the King have the Division which he Demands, or the Alternative. To come to the end of this, I discern two great Difficulties, which being surmounted, we may reckon the Peace made: The one is, the Condition of the King of Portugal, to whom the States will never consent to promise that they will break with Spain, if he is not directly treated from King to King; this Proposition is insurmountable in the Assembly of the States of Holland, by reason of the Hate which they bear the Portuguese, and of the Quarrel which they have at present about a Pretension of eight Millions which very much disturbs the course of Affairs.

The other is, the distrust which the States have, that there will be no Security when the Peace is made, and the King will break it on some other Pretext, on which the States will not act effectually 'till they shall be secur'd that his Majesty will agree to the Guarantee of all the Kings, Princes and States, receiv'd for Mediators in the Treaty of Peace; these two Difficulties remov'd, which would intirely restore the Confidence in his Majesty, I dare advance that in a little time, his Majesty, with the assistance of Monsieur de Wit, and
Mons.

Mons. van Benningen, to break with the King of Spain, in case of refusal of the propos'd Conditions, provided that a Partition be already agreed on, so as 'tis to be after the Death of the King of Spain.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: November 4, 1667.

BEfore every thing else, I with all my Heart rejoice with you on the good Success of your Voyage to *Boisteduc*, and to speak truly, never was any Journey more seasonably taken than yours, since, without it, you had lost a Son of very great merit, which your Care and Application alone have sav'd. *Monsieur le Tellier*, at my Request, gave an account of it to the King, who express'd his Satisfaction, and shares with you a part of your Happiness.

My Distemper continues yet, and happens at a very convenient time, when I have not much to say to you on your last Dispatch; for if I had, in the Condition in which I am, I should scarce be able to discharge the Duty. All that I have in Charge to write to you on your former of the 20th, and the Project which accompany'd it, consists only in repeating to you at present from the King, and as his own Sentiments, all that I wrote to you this Day Seven-night, as my own, on the Project. We cannot see here by what Turns, as you say in your last Dispatch, *Monsieur de Wit* will bring things about to his Majesty's Satisfaction, but certainly 'twill not be with his Majesty's Consent, that he manage them by a Project of the Nature of that which you sent me, and that his Majesty himself grant his Allowance and Approbation to the States, to enable them to negotiate Leagues with other Princes against himself. If this happen, we shall not be pleas'd here, but shall not yet remain idle with folded Arms, but every one will help himself the best that he can.

What I observe is, that the Treaty of 1662 will utterly vanish; for the States must certainly think, that being engag'd by that Treaty to the Guarantee of the King's Rights, and not only neglecting that, but confederating to hinder his Majesty from himself obliging his Enemies to do him Justice; that his Majesty, after so direct a Contravention on their part, has no great reason to depend much on the Contents of the said Treaty, from which yet the *United-Provinces* have hitherto drawn many Advantages, and his Majesty as many Prejudices by a War undertaken solely for their Interests; and against all those of his Crown. I should have an hundred things to say to you on this fine Project, by which they have chang'd all the Cards in our Hand; but besides, that the state of my Health does not permit it, I am certain that Monsieur *de Wit* and Monsieur *van Beuningen* see them as well as my self.

I cannot conclude without telling you, betwixt you and I, for your private Satisfaction, that if after the King has put into the Hands of the States the Certainty of Peace, on the Conditions which Monsieur *de Wit* himself propos'd, provided that they would but exert themselves as they ought to the *Spaniards*, the said States, instead of that, take up the Cards, and make Alliances contrary to the Interests of his Majesty; we shall not be so much disturb'd at it here as they may think. I know what I say, and on what Foundation I say it. Those who would do us a Mischief, will do more to themselves, and perhaps better advance the Advantages of his Majesty; wherefore live merrily, whatever you see happen.

Memorial

Memorial of the Count D'Estrades, presented to the States-General of the United Provinces of the Low-Countries: November 5, 1667.

THE Count *D'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, has receiv'd another fresh Order from the King his Master, to demand on his Part of your Lordships, the restitution of the Tin which his Majesty has in *Zealand*, being very much surpris'd that after that Admiralty had engag'd him to write an exprefs Letter to your Lordships on that account, on the Declaration which that College made, that if it appear'd that the said Tin belong'd to his Majesty, there would be no difficulty in the Restitution, so as the late Monsieur *Janot*, the Consul for the *French*, was besides assur'd by those of the said College of Admiralty; but instead of giving Satisfaction, they continue to detain the said Tin by litigious Means to that degree, as to require the King to plead his Cause by an Advocate, which is intirely inconsistent with his Majesty's Dignity, after the Declaration which he himself has made, that the said Tin belong'd to him, and was bought with his Mony to be us'd in the Foundeies of *France*. The King also, besides, sees how he is consider'd by that Admiralty; the Restitution which it long since made of the *Swedish* Ship, and the sole detention of his Tin for five Months, don't give him reason to expect any favourable Success with regard to this Restitution, tho' very just; nevertheless his Majesty has commanded his said Ambassador again to entreat your Lordships, to give your Orders to the said Admiralty to restore his Majesty's said Tin, on the Letter which he wrote to your Lordships, which ought to be of more Force than all that the Advocates can say;

say; to which the said Ambassador adds, that the Gentlemen of the College of the Admiralty of Zealand told the deceased *Janet*, that if your Lordships had written to them to restore the said Tin to the King, on your Letter they had immediately done it; but that having written to them only to do Justice, they have manag'd the Affair as we see. Wherefore the said Ambassador redoubles his Instances to your Lordships, that you will please to send again to the said Admiralty, a Copy of the King's Letter, that they may not pretend Ignorance, and that on the Orders of your Lordships that College would please without any delay to make Restitution of the said Tin, the continuation of the Refusal of which must inevitably draw on pernicious Consequences, which they may prevent. Deliver'd at the *Hague*, November 5, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: November 10, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 4th of this Instant, and hear with great Uneasiness the continuation of your Indisposition.

I have acquainted Monsieur *de Wit* that his Project did not please the King, who sticks strictly to his Memorial, to which he resolv'd on the same Proposal, and that he had nothing to retrench.

He answer'd me, that 'twas enough to put us on other ways which might make his Majesty's Affairs succeed to his Satisfaction: That the States receiving Advice from *Sweden*, that the King had acquainted that Crown that he would accept their Mediation, that the Princes of the *Rhine* had also given them to understand the same thing on their Part, and that also the Prince of *Strasburg* had caus'd it to be written to him, that

that the King consented to a Suspension of Arms, and that he would do his utmost to come to the *Hague*, to confer with him on that important Subject; he thought things could not go otherwise than well; that his Opinion was, that the States should continue Mediators, as well as the others, using all possible good Offices with the *Spaniards* to engage them to give the King Satisfaction; that the States had already written to their Ambassador in *Spain*, to talk forcibly on this Subject. To which I reply'd, that 'twas not enough to have written, but that in this Conjunction they ought to have sent either Monsieur *van Benningen*, or Monsieur *Beverning*, and that if the *Spaniards* refus'd, the States were oblig'd to break with them by his Proposal, and that the Treaty of 1662 oblig'd them also to maintain the King's Rights; to which he answer'd me, that he made this Proposition to me himself at a time when if the King had accepted it, he was able to have carry'd it thro' the Cities; but that the Answer not coming 'till three Months afterwards, during which time their Inclinations were strongly alienated from *France*, as well by reason of the Conjunction of the King's Fleet with that of the States, as was agreed by the Treaty sign'd on the fifth of *May*, as by the Conquests which his Majesty continu'd to make, which shew'd them the Design which he had to render himself Master of the *Low-Countries*, and that 'tis not easie to return into their own Channell these straggling Minds, which had lost all Confidence in his Majesty.

That on the Umbrages which the States took, as he had reason to believe, by several Complaints which they had made him in the Conferences which he had had with the Ministers of the *German* Princes, he could yet assure me, as a Man of Honour, that there was nothing pass'd but what was to the Advantage of his Majesty, and tended to unite and act together against the *Spaniards*, in case they should refuse his Majesty's said Proposal.

But

But that he must tell me, that they had room to doubt that the King desir'd Peace, since he answers nothing on the Guarantee, which is an essential Point, and without which 'tis impossible to be secure of what is treated on; that the Condition of breaking with *Spain*, if the King of *Portugal* was not treated directly from King to King, could not be propos'd, and that this was to render all Proposals vain.

As for what regards the Engagements in which the States are, by the Treaty of 1662, to maintain all the King's Rights, he agrees to it, and says that they will punctually observe it; but that the Right in question is new, and not confirm'd; that he should not be at all put to it to justify the Conduct of the States in this Conjunction; that out of Discretion they pass'd by in silence many Reasons of Complaint; that one of the principal was, the having began a War, after having both by Word of Mouth and Writing promis'd that he would not undertake it without their Participation; and that the King's Army march'd into *Flanders* at the same time that his Majesty signify'd to them his Pretensions; that by the Treaty of the *Pyrenees* 'tis stipulated, that in case of any Quarrel no Party should proceed to Arms before six Months after the beginning of it, during which, Endeavours were to be made to terminate Differences.

And yet they knew nothing of the King's Complaints any otherwise than by his entring *Flanders* at the Head of forty thousand Men, and by the taking of five or six of the most considerable Towns in the *Low-Countries*.

After which, the States had their Conscience clear, believing themselves very free not to be oblig'd to the Guaranty of such a War, and to have observ'd in all Points the Treaty of 1662. You may judge, Sir, by all this Disconrse, I should have been in pain if the end of your Letter had not remov'd the Cause of it, by the Assurance which it gives me, that whatever the States did, the King's Affairs would not succeed ill.

After

After this Security, I think 'tis best not to answer Messieurs *de Wit* and *van Beuningen* any farther than I did twice Yesterday, which was, that the King continues firm to the Contents of his Memorial, and that the Question does not turn on changing any Proposition of it, since his Majesty is fix'd there.

I have, by my precedent Dispatch of the 3d, represented to you the State of Affairs in this Country, and the ways of obliging these People to break with *Spain*. I shall tell you farther, Sir, that I am secure of the five Cities of *North-Holland*, in case the other fall in with the Opinion for the Rupture; 'tis all that is in my Power to manage the Inclination of my Friends to follow this Sentiment: If Messieurs *de Wit* and *van Beuningen* can incline the other Cities at their next meeting on the 15th of this Month, we may be secure that all the King's Desires will be executed; but to tell you the truth, I observe here so many Intrigues, and so many various Opinions and Jealousies of the King's great Power, that I can't see that we ought to promise our selves Success in this Negotiation.

Monsieur *van Beuningen* has refus'd the States to return to *France*, as he has also to go to *Germany*, Colleague to Prince *Maurice*, with the Secret and Credit of the States.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
November 17, 1667.

SINCE the two last Dispatches which I wrote to Monsieur *de Lionne*, Don *Estevan de Gamarra* and the Baron *de Brigenis* have had several Conferences with Monsieur *de Wit*, and several Deputies of the Cities of *Holland*, some of which are my particular Friends, which have told me all that pass'd there, as well as Monsieur *de Wit*, to whom these two *Spanish* Ministers have declar'd that the Council of *Spain* could
nor

not consent to the buying of any Places in the *Low-Countries*; but that if the States would declare against *France*, and form a defensive League with the House of *Austria* for the Preservation of the *Low-Countries*, they had Power in that case to treat with the States and to give them Satisfaction on the selling of the Place propos'd. The *Sieur de Wit* answer'd, that the Intention of his Masters being only to buy, and not either to lend or engage any thing contrary to the Treaties which they had with your Majesty, he declar'd to them that he would break off all sorts of Negotiations with them; of which he gave account to the Deputies of *Holland*, which were remaining at the *Hague*, and they confirm'd this Resolution: Without depending too much on what *Monsieur de Wit* reports, I have been confirm'd in the belief of all above, by two of the principal Deputies, of the Affection and Fidelity of whom I am certain I cannot doubt, in things which regard the Service of your Majesty.

In this Disposition I thought it my Duty to push Matters in a conjuncture which seem'd to me so favourable. I was with *Monsieur de Wit*, and after having prais'd the Answer which he made to the *Spanish* Ministers, we fell on the first Proposals which he made to *Monsieur Courtin* and me, and on the difference betwixt them and his last Project; that your Majesty would not consent that there should be any Alteration of what he had himself propos'd; that to me it seem'd glorious to him, and advantageous to the States, to end a War betwixt two great Kings by their Mediation, of which they alone would have the Honour. He answer'd me, that 'twas true, that he had nothing to desire so much as to put a good End to this great Work; that he saw in it insurmountable Difficulties, which did not appear in it when he made us the Proposition; which are, your Majesty's Engagement with the King of *Portugal*, and the Condition which he impos'd on them by his Memorial, which would never pass the States; and the other, that his Masters would be

be secur'd that your Majesty having the Partition which you ask'd, the Peace should be firm and lasting, which the States could never believe without all the Kings, Princes, and the said States entred into a Guaranty with regard to what they treated on; and we only talking of our selves, and our Conversation not at all engaging your Majesty, I thought it my Duty to penetrate as far as I could into the Inclinations of the States, in case your Majesty should accommodate your self to these two Points: I told him, that I did not believe that your Majesty would relax any thing which regard'd *Portugal*; that for the Guaranty I thought it superfluous, since the Treaty which your Majesty would sign would be of more force than all the Guaranties of the Kings and Princes of *Germany*; that this gave me some uneasiness, because it seem'd that all sorts of Guaranties presuppos'd Jealousies and Distracts, which disoblig'd a great King their Allie as was your Majesty, who on his side had on so many signal Occasions testify'd his Affection for them; but, per case that his Majesty to satisfy the States should accommodate himself to what is desir'd on these two Points, what would the States do in case that the Council of *Spain* should not yield to the Partition, or should draw out Affairs to a length to occasion the loss of time of acting in the Campagne, which would be very prejudicial to his Majesty, by reason to undertake great Designs in *May*, 'tis requisite to prepare two Months before; that accordingly I ought to advertise him of this, that he might take his Measures, it being requisite to be secur'd by the first of *March*, whether the Treaty would or would not be concluded.

He answer'd me, that he did not doubt but the States would break with the King of *Spain*, in case of his Refusal of the Accommodation, and that this was his Opinion; but that the difficulty with him was the concerning what should be done after this Rupture; for his Majesty might perhaps take some Towns in their

their Neighbourhood, which would excite in them such great Jealousies that the good Understanding would not last long, and that was possible the same might happen on the side of *France*, by the taking of some Places by the Arms of the States; and that to speak freely, such important Treaties cannot well be concluded by Letters, there being too many things to answer before an Agreement can be made. I told him, that the States might remove that Inconvenience by sending their Intentions by Monsieur *van Benninghen*, which would be favourably heard by his Majesty. He reply'd, that he had already refus'd to go thither, and that being a Republick, every one found Friends enough in the Cities to obtain what they desir'd; but that he thought there was yet a greater Inconvenience, which is, that a Person deputed from the State to Kingdoms, must have his Instructions from all the Provinces, and that there was not one which dar'd to charge himself with such a secret Commission, for fear of being one day discover'd; to which he added, that himself durst not make any step in this Affair, without agreeing all things with the utmost Secrecie with your Majesty beforehand; that to compass that End, he saw but one single Expedient, which was that I should take a Journey to your Majesty to adjust all things; that he would second me on all that we had talk'd of, and do his utmost to engage the States to agree to whatever should be concluded betwixt your Majesty, him and I, of which I should give him an Account, by your Majesty's Permission, when I should be with you; that confiding in me, he would not scruple to open himself to me; that he knew that I had gain'd all *North Holland* to break at this Moment with *Spain*, if your Majesty would consent to a Partition; that he would also tell me in utmost Confidence, that he pursu'd the same Sentiment, but was oblig'd to guard himself against Monsieur *van Benninghen*, who was utterly of a contrary Opinion; but that yet he ought notwithstanding to be manag'd, he being serviceable

in other Affairs. I reply'd, that I could not deny but that I had Friends in *North-Holland*, which were firmly perswaded that 'twas better to break with *Spain*, and make a Partition, than to separate from the Alliance with your Majesty; that I could not go from hence without leave; that all that I could do was to give an account to your Majesty of all that he had said to me, and expect your Orders; that as your Majesty had a clearer sight of your Affairs than any other Person, you would then determine, pursuant to your Interests and greatest Advantage.

This is, Sir, what pass'd betwixt *Monf. de Wit* and me in six days, in which we have had several Conferences. If your Majesty pleases that I should come to give you an Account of all this Affair, the States will lend me a Ship, in which I will come by Sea; and tho' the Wind should prove contrary, the Voyage backwards and forwards will not be above three Weeks at most. I shall wait your Majesty's Orders, and most punctually execute them; being with all sorts of, &c.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: November 18, 1667.

I Had prepar'd all the King's Dispatches hereunto annex'd, and intended to have sent them by a Courier, when before they could be turn'd into Cypher, I receiv'd yours of the 10th, which inform'd me, that on your acquainting *Monsieur de Wit*, that the King did not agree to his Project, but kept to his Memorial, your Minister answer'd, that 'twas enough to know that, in order to try other ways to succeed in satisfying his Majesty.

The knowledge of this had almost made me stifle all I had done, but his Majesty would not by any Means that I should neglect sending to you, but only by the Post, the Memorial and the other Project which

I have address'd to you; for perhaps they may frequently repeat the same things to you, and you will there meet with Arms to defend your self against all unjust Attacks, and oblige the Gentlemen with whom you are to treat to stick to the Terms of the Propositions which they themselves made, and which his Majesty accepted tho' very much to his Prejudice, solely for the sake of Peace, and to accommodate himself to what they thought to be their Interest: For as for the two Reasons alledg'd by Monsieur *de Wit*, to endeavour to justify the alteration of his Conduct and his own Proposition as that of Monsieur *de Beaufort's* not joining the Stat Fleet, are so frivolous, that 'tis scarce to be believed that so able a Man should start them; and after a Monsieur *van Benningen* should not then have solicited here, a few days before his departure, with so much earnestness to obtain the King's last Resolutions, which appear'd to him, as he said, very just and favourable for the Peace, and promis'd to make use of them at home to do Wonders; this doubtless is not the way which great Kings ought to be treated, to make them lay open their Intentions, thank 'em, and then put them into their Pockets, without endeavouring to get them accepted by his Enemies; but think only of forming great Leagues against an Allie which has put the Peace into their Hands, on what Conditions they pleas'd themselves.

For, Sir, to conceal nothing from you, besides what has been told you of the Negotiations of the Prince of the Empire, the King knows that the *Sieur Meerman*, not daring directly to propose to the King of England a League betwixt his Masters and him against France, for the defence of the *Low-Countries*; doubtless for fear that the Secret should reach his Majesty's Ears; has desir'd the Count *de Molina*, the Spanish Ambassador, to do it, and given him Power from the States to affirm that their Intention is to make the said League, if the King of England is in the same disposition. I desire you to tell Monsieur *de Wit*, from me, that

that if they continue thus to mock the King, I find his Majesty resolv'd to return it on them double, whatever may happen; and to speak truth, I don't comprehend, if even Honour and Sincerity were not so notoriously wounded, to what end these Stratagems can serve, when they have the Peace in their Hands by the most honourable and secure ways.

Monsieur de Wir's Recriminations, alledging that his Masters were not advertis'd of his Majesty's Design of entering the *Low-Countries*, 'till a short time before he was putting it in Execution, are at this Season very much to the purpose! What we see transacted every day at the *Hague*, does but too clearly prove that his Majesty could not take any other Measures, without exposing himself to the same Prejudices which he would have lain under, if he had disclos'd his all Thoughts to the *Spaniards*: And I don't believe that even at *Madrid* they are so sensibly touch'd with the least Success of his Majesty's Arms, as at the *Hague*: The King never had any other than good Intentions, which God will doubtless bless and assist, and after all, 'tis possible he may suffer from them; but 'twill not be easie from his Enemies to affright him.

The Proposal made to you, that the States should remain barely Mediators is very Surprizing and Extraordinary, after what has happen'd; unless, perhaps, they intend an arm'd Mediation, which should declare to the *Spaniards* that the States had obtain'd for them such and such Conditions of Peace, which are very advantageous in the present State of their Affairs, and if they make any difficulty in accepting them, the States have promis'd the King to join their Forces with his, to force them. Talking at this rate would produce a Peace in a few Days; but not subterranean Leagues and Unions, which are equally unnecessary and uncertain.

The King has not said to the Bishop of *Strasburg*, or to any other, any thing concerning the Cessation of Arms, different from what he told the States, which

was, that his Majesty would engage to make no Attempt before the end of *March*, on any strong Place of the *Spaniards*, provided they reciprocally promise the same to his Majesty; and this is what that Bishop must have call'd a Suspension, and which is nevertheless very different from it, for both sides would yet continue their Hostilities in the Country during the whole Winter, and Contributions be rais'd as far as is in the Power of either Party, which in the main signifies nothing to the Peace, nor can it alter the Conditions to be concerted, as they may be chang'd by the surprize of some considerable Place or Post. If Monsieur *Wit* will give himself the trouble to read thoroughly the *Pyrenean Treaty*, he will not find, as I told you, that no Party was to proceed by way of Arms, in case of any Quarrel, 'till the expiration of six Months after it should have happen'd: Monsieur *de Castel Roderig* was also mistaken, in alledging the same Argument in the Libel which he pleas'd to send to the King at the time of his Entry into the *Netherlands*; but was very much surpriz'd when he found in my Answer to the Marquis *de la Fuente* on the said Libel, that I refer'd him to his better reading it once more, because that he would not find any thing in the *Pyrenean Treaty* concerning the pretended six Months time, unless the Allowance of it to the Subjects to withdraw their Effects out of the Kingdoms, which his Majesty then offer'd to the *Spaniards*; and indeed he did nothing against them 'till six Months after his entrance of the *Low-Countries*, and when the *Spaniards* first set him an Example.

Memorial from the King to the Count D'Estrades, sent by Monsieur de Lionne, November 18. 1667.

WE have hitherto contented our selves with advising the said Count *d'Estrades* in general Terms, That his Majesty could not agree to the Project which came with his Dispatch the 20th of October; and it was thought wholly superfluous to alledge any particular Reasons why his Majesty could not treat at all on the Foot of a Piece conceiv'd in the Terms which that Project is; it seeming impossible that the said Monsieur *de Wit*, who sent it, should not see these Reasons as well as his Majesty himself; but since the King has been again inform'd by the Dispatch of the said Sieur *d'Estrades*, of the third of this Month, that he continually persists, not only in maintaining that Piece, but representing its Contents as very advantageous to his Majesty, he will at present particularly examine it, to make appear to the Sieur *d'Estrades*, that with regard to all its Parts, 'twas scarce possible to draw up one so prejudicial to this Crown, in which its Interests would be more hazarded, and indeed, which could less tend to Peace; unless perhaps such a Peace as the *Spaniards* themselves might desire.

In the first Place, his Majesty having sincerely, and without any Reserve, accepted the Sieur *de Wit*'s Proposal, with respect to the Quality of his Satisfaction, which might pass for sufficient, with regard to the States, has yet added, That he would content himself with another Alternative, which is the Cession of those Places which his Arms have occupied the last Campaign; he finds that what he did on that Head, out of the pure Excess of his Desire for Peace, is at present by the said Project several Ways turned against himself: For in the Preamble, after having laid the Foundation,

'dation, that his Majesty considers the Possession of his
 'Conquests, as a Compulsion of sufficient Force to in-
 'duce the *Spaniards* to agree to an Accommodation
 'they at first sight draw thence a Consequence ver-
 'prejudicial to his Majesty, that what he could rea-
 'sonably ask of the States, is, That they will heartily
 'concur to hinder his Majesty from being interrupted
 'in the Possession of his said Conquests, tho' the Peace
 'should not be concluded, without mentioning in what
 'space of Time it should be determined to be made in
 'which, nevertheless, would be indispensibly necessary
 'for the Reasons which shall here-under be deduced,
 'even his Majesty would at present agree, which he
 'never can do, on the Principle which they would esta-
 'blish, That he cannot reasonably demand any Thing
 'of the States beyond their Concurrence to hinder his
 'being disturb'd in the Possession of his Conquests.

'Secondly, To shew that they turn his Majesty's own
 'Advances against himself, he would willingly put on
 'Question to the *Sieur de Wit*, presupposing that his Ma-
 'jesty had not mention'd the second Alternative, which
 'is, What Conduct he would then have engag'd the
 'States to have taken, to induce the *Spaniards* to the Ac-
 'ceptance of the first Proposal, which the said *de Wit*
 'himself made, and which his Majesty frankly and
 'without Reserve accepted? And he would also willing-
 'ly desire him, either that he engage the States at pre-
 'sent to keep to the same Measures, or that he own
 'That that Proposition was not made to his Majesty with
 'an intire sincere Intention. In the third place, he has
 'observ'd, as a Thing infinitely surprizing, the Decla-
 'ration contain'd in the first Lines of the Project, That
 'the States cannot ever resolve to force the King of
 '*Spain* by Arms to yield to the Conditions which are
 'desired to serve as the Foundation of a Treaty of Peace
 'which is directly contrary to the first Principle which
 'the *Sieur de Wit* himself laid down in the Negotiation
 'and without which, to speak Truth, the King would
 'never have yielded so much as he did; and perhaps

'not have hearkned to it, without the Offer of forcing
'the *Spaniards* by Arms to the Conditions which should
'be agreed on. The *Sieur d'Estrades* by this single Cir-
'cumstance, to say nothing of many others, will judge
'whether he was in the wrong or no, to write to him,
'that they have, according to the Proverb, chang'd the
'Cards in Hand.

'In the third place, If one would here enter into the
'Matter, the Project begins with desiring the King's
'Consent to the Negotiations which the States will en-
'gage in, for a more strict Union with the Princes of the
'Empire, under pretence of drawing them into the same
'Sentiments with them; that is, as to what they shall
'have promised his Majesty concerning the Conditions of
'Peace.

'The King had an intire Confidence in the *Sieur de*
'*Wit*, and remain'd assur'd of his good Intentions, on
'the Subject of the Accommodation, and also that he
'would conclude it on advantageous Conditions to this
'Crown; but he is the Person which is really to answer
'to his Majesty two Things, both of which are never-
'theless of the last Importance to his Majesty.

'The one, That the said *Sieur de Wit* shall for the
'future be intirely Master of the Resolutions of the
'States, since he has already declar'd, that he cannot
'bring them to what himself offer'd, to force the *Span-*
'*niard* by Arms.

'The second, That the said States remain always
'Masters of the Resolutions of the said *Princes of the*
'*Empire*, it being on the contrary much rather to be
'believ'd and fear'd, that the strongest in Number
'should draw after them the weakest; and tho' after
'all, the said Princes should take any Resolution con-
'trary to his Majesty's Interests, and the Conditions with
'him, is it not easie to see, that the States would then
'put him off with the wretched Excuse, that they were
'not Masters, and were oblig'd to follow the Torrent?
'But what is in this much more surprizing, and makes
'appear, that they have not at the Bottom all that good

Opinion which they ought to have of his Majesty's Prudence; they desire his own Consent to form a powerful League, which may as soon probably turn against himself, as be favourable to him, by reason of so many various Interests, or jarring Inclinations of the other Princes of which 'tis to be compos'd. And what is more, most of these Princes will make a great Difficulty of entering into any Engagement of this Nature, and let loose their Emissaries, when they believe they can shock his Majesty by intermeddling in it; or on the contrary, if we could shew them, that his Majesty himself was agreed to this League, there would be no Potentate nor Prince which would not voluntarily enter into it: But yet if after that Affairs must be decided by the Plurality of Voices, where will be the Security which the King can have, that the States shall always remain Masters of all the Deliberations? Since that, as has been already observ'd, the *Sieur de Wit* professes at present, not to have intirely in his Power those of his Masters. The King in this Negotiation will not treat on, and concert Measures with any but the States; and his Majesty will charge himself with engaging his Friends in the Empire to concur with their Sentiments, without there being Occasion for any Union amongst them to effect that.

As for those Princes which shall have different Interests or Inclinations, the King will not be much concern'd at all the Attempts which they can make, when his Majesty has the States for him, conform to the Measures which they shall have taken with his Majesty.

The whole Project in it self is very surprizing, but that Part which is most extraordinary, or to speak more properly, utterly unreasonable, is that of the indetermined *Interim*, there being no exact Time express'd, in which the *Spaniards* are oblig'd to accept one of the two Offers, or to be accounted Refusers of the Peace; which is yet so reasonable, and indispensably necessary, that there is great Reason to be surpriz'd, that the *Sieur de Wit* could think his Majesty capable of

'of so great a Mistake as that would be, of for every-
'ing his Hands from the employing his Arms to force
'the *Spaniards* to the Peace, but to wait their convenient
'Opportunity of consenting to it; which perhaps might
'not happen in Twenty Years, if they should not have
'any other Reason to prolong it, than waiting the
'coming to Age of their King; and in the mean time to
'put themselves into a better Posture of Defence.

'Can his Majesty, on Negotiations, whose Success is
'so uncertain, with Prudence refrain from taking Re-
'views of his Veteran Troops, levying Numbers of
'new Ones, and forming great Armies? And ought
'his Armies to be maintain'd idle at the Expence of his
'Majesty and his Kingdom, to wait till it please the
'*Spaniards* to yield to the Peace? And will it be suf-
'ficient to force them, to have all that they at present
'possess in the *Netherlands* fully secur'd, and to be rid
'of all Apprehensions of losing any thing for the future?
'In short, whether 'tis possible for this way to lead to
'the Peace, we refer to what the *Sieur de Wit* himself
'would say, supposing him free from Passion or Prepos-
'sion?

'By what has lately happen'd, says he, 'tis easie to
'see, that the King can never consent to an *Interim*,
'which shall extend beyond the End of *March*, which
'is the Term which his Majesty has already offer'd, and
'is more than sufficient to have a positive Answer from
'the *Spaniards*, whether they will, or will not accept
'of one of the two Alternatives. 'Tis indeed true,
'that if he will spend a Time so precious in very vain
'Negotiations betwixt his Majesty and the States, the
'End of *March* may come before the Propositions
'which the *Spaniards* are to be induc'd to consent to
'are even made to them; and particularly, if they won't
'begin to speak to them, till after they have concluded
'several Leagues with other Princes and Potentates: But
'in this Case his Majesty has great Reason to protest,
'as he does at present, that none of these Delays, nor of
'the Mischiefs which Christendom may receive by the
'Hosti-

‘Hostilities recommencing next Spring, and the not
‘concluding of the Peace, can be no Satisfaction.

‘The third Article of the Project seems to be very
‘irregular, not so far designedly so; but instead
‘of clapping the Ax to the Root, by saying, That the
‘of the two Parties which should refuse war or the
‘other of the two concerted Alternatives, should be
‘deem’d to have refus’d the Peace; and consequently
‘all Assistance to be given to the other, even to paying
‘Forces with it; the Article makes this Penalty fall
‘only on the Party which shall refuse to submit to the
‘*Interim*; that is to say, That the said Penalty can fall
‘only on the King, whose Interest it is much is, not
‘to maintain great Armies idle till the Spring comes;
‘and never on the Spaniards, who have always loudly
‘cry’d out for a Suspension, which is the same thing
‘with the said *Interim*; and who would desire to have
‘it last till their King comes to Age.

‘The fourth Article speaks only in ambiguous Terms,
‘liable to a double Meaning, even the Explanation of
‘which is intirely reserv’d to the States; for instead of
‘specifying at large each of the two Alternatives to sti-
‘pulate the Obligation to force the Spaniards, even by
‘Arms, to accept one of them; ’tis only said, that the
‘States will seriously apply themselves to cause the Ac-
‘commodation to succeed by proportion’d Exchanges,
‘or other reasonable Conditions, and that in case of an
‘ill-grounded Obstinacy; who shall then judge of this
‘Obstinacy, to know whether ’tis ill-grounded? And
‘who also shall judge whether the Conditions are just,
‘or unreasonable? It must not be the Parties, and then
‘it will signify nothing to the King to have stipulated
‘the said Conditions with the States; but ’twill be-
‘long to the States themselves and the other Princes
‘confederated with them, to decide plainly according
‘to their Pleasure; and if his Majesty refuses to submit
‘to it, he will have immediately on his Back all the
‘Forces of a powerful Confederacy.

' On the fifth Article, as his Majesty will never make
' any Accommodation which he does not sincerely de-
' sign to keep, he will, without any Difficulty, agree
' that all the Princes and Potentates who are willing to
' it, be Guarantees to the *Spaniards* of what he shall
' sign.

' As for what is said afterwards, That a sure Way is
' propos'd to his Majesty to attain his Ends, so much
' the rather because the States on their part, to engage in
' the same Design several *German* Princes, who with-
' out that, might be inclin'd to Resolutions which
' might be dangerous to them and *France*. His Majesty
' thanks the States for this good Will, half of which is
' sufficient; that is to say, That the said States would
' promise only for themselves, and that without Reserves
' and Equivocations, as he is ready to do on his part,
' in very clear and express Terms; and that is the only
' true Way of attaining certainly the common propos'd
' End of a happy Accommodation, on the Conditions
' which we are to agree on together by Anticipation.

' The last Article of the Project, concerning the Re-
' trenchment of the Contributions, to endeavour to de-
' stroy the Troops of the King of *France*, and strengthen
' those of the Enemies, discovers in his Majesty's Al-
' lies too much partiality for the *Spaniards*, in an Affair
' which does not concern the States; wherefore there is
' no need of any other Answer than the bare reading of
' the Article alone to reject it, and so much the rather,
' that Things remaining on the establish'd Foot, with
' regard to the Contributions, is a pressing Engagement
' to incline the *Spaniards* to Peace. This is what relates
' to the Project.

' As for what is said afterwards in the Dispatch of the
' third of this Month, That the States will give Secur-
' ty to the King, that he accepting one of the two Pro-
' positions in his Memorial, they will not deem him to
' be the Refuser; and therefore that this Condition will be
' wholly against *Spain*, in case that it rejects the Accom-
'modation, that is well, provided a Time was agreed

on,

'on, which ought to be betwixt this and the End of
 'March, to what the Spaniards to be oblig'd to de-
 'clare whether they do, or do not accept of one of the
 'two Alternatives; and that they not doing it, the King
 'who can no longer be esteem'd a Refuser of the Peace,
 'to be at Liberty to act by his Arms, and the States to
 'join theirs to force the Spaniards to the said Condi-
 'tions of Peace.

'A. for the Negotiations with the Princes of the
 'Empire, provided that no real Confederacies be treated
 'on by Treaties, his Majesty, after that it shall be con-
 'cluded and sign'd betwixt him and the States, not only
 'will not take it ill, but thinks 'twill be very necessary that
 'the States communicate the Affair to the said Princes,
 'to inspire them, if possible, with the same Sentiments,
 'as the most just and safe Ways speedily to at-
 'tain a good Accommodation. But to return Project for
 'Project, with this Difference, that there will be no-
 'thing in that of the King, which will not be very just,
 'and very instrumental to the Advancement of the Peace,
 'and besides which will not be founded on the *Sieur*
 '*de Wit's* own Offers; his Majesty sends to the said *Sieur*
 '*d'Estrades*, in another separate Memorial, the Points
 'which he is perfectly ready to agree with the States,
 'without Loss of Time.

'As the said *Sieur d'Estrades* represents the Peace as
 'certain, in case Expedients could be found out to cure the
 'Jealousies of the States on two great Difficulties, which
 'he foresees in this Negotiation, one on the Point of *Por-
 'tugal*, and the other on the Security of the Treaty by
 'the Guaranty of other Princes and Potentates: If the
 'said *Sieur d'Estrades* has judg'd right, we may take
 'the Peace for made; since that by the Project which
 'his Majesty sends, all the Expedients are hit on to get
 'rid of these two great Difficulties which he appre-
 'hended, to the Satisfaction of the States: But his Ma-
 'jesty doing whatever the States please to cure their
 'Jealousies, and having besides consented to all the Con-
 'ditions of Peace which they themselves desir'd and propo-
 's'd,

pos'd, they must not also be wanting on their part, to what is necessary to cure the just Umbrages of his Majesty, on the great Leagues which they will unnecessarily treat with the Princes of the Empire, and perhaps elsewhere; nor must they also contest with his Majesty, on the Quality of the Obligation which they ought reciprocally to contract towards him; so much the rather, that 'twould be no great Hazard to venture to secure that, if the Treaty can be concluded according to the Project which the King sends without any Alteration, the Peace may be held for infallible, the *Spaniards* not being in Condition, if they should dare, to refuse the accepting of one of the two Alternatives.

As 'tis frequently necessary to accommodate ones self to the Capacity of those with whom one has to do, rather than to carry things to an Extremity, tho' the doing so be founded on all the Reason in the World; his Majesty, considering the great Difficulty, not to say Impossibility, there would be to dispose the People of the *United-Provinces* to break with *Spain*, to force them to accept the Conditions of Peace, tho' they are no others than those which the principal Directors of their State have propos'd and desir'd of his Majesty, which he generously consented to: His said Majesty gives power to the said *Sieur d'Estades*, at the last Extremity, and when he cannot do better, to abandon the Pretension of the said Rupture with the *Spaniards*, and to content himself in its Room, with the States engaging themselves to him in the best manner that he can desire, that in case that the said *Spaniards* reject, and will not accept one of the two Alternatives contain'd in the Project this Day sent to the said *Sieur d'Estades*, the States shall with all their Forces oppose the Troops which may come from the Side of *Germany* to the Assistance of the *Spaniards* in the *Netherlands*, by what Prince or Potentate soever the said Troops are sent and belong to, without excepting any one, as the *Sieur van Benningen*, when
here,

' here, frequently offer'd, as what was intirely conform
 ' to the Treaty of 1662., by which the States are oblig'd
 ' to declare against every Aggressor against his Majesty;
 ' and perhaps the same Engagement of the said States
 ' ought to take place, if the Emperor, or some other
 ' Prince, instead of sending Forces into *Flanders*, should
 ' make use of them to attack *Alsace* and *Burgundy*.

*Points which the Treaty may contain, which is
 to be made betwixt the King and the States,
 mention'd in the Memorial above.*

HIS Majesty, betwixt this Time and the End of
March, for the Promotion of Peace, if the *Spaniards*
 accept the Proposition in that Time, shall content
 himself for the Satisfaction, which he pretends, of
 the Rights devolv'd on the Queen by the Death of the
 King of *Spain*, with the Cession in due Form by the
 said *Spaniards*, of the fortified Places, Forts, Posts, and
 their Dependancies which his Arms have occupied du-
 ring the last Campaign; that if the *Spaniards* had rather
 treat with him of an Exchange of the said Conquests,
 his said Majesty, for the mention'd Satisfaction of the
 Rights devolv'd on the Queen, and within the men-
 tion'd Term of the End of *March*, will content him-
 self with the Possession of what he at present possesses
 in the Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, of *Cambray* and the *Cam-
 bresis*, *Douay*, *Air* and *St. Omer*, *Bergues* and *Furnes*,
 and their Bailliages, Appurtenancies and Dependancies,
 and that *Charleroy* shall be ras'd; and his Majesty will
 restore to the *Spaniards* all the other Conquests, not
 comprehended in this Article, which his Arms have
 made this Campaign; that for the greater facilitating of
 the Peate, if the *Spaniards* chuse rather to yield to his
 Majesty the *Franche Comty* than the Dutchy of *Lux-
 emburg*, for part of the Cessions, in lieu and instead of
 the said Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, his Majesty will receive
 the

the Cession in lieu and instead of the said Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, for part of the Cessions to be made in the immediate precedent Article.

That his said Majesty, provided the aforesaid Cessions be made, either the first which is offer'd or the second, will deliver to the King of *Spain* his Renunciations, and that of the Queen, in due Form, of all the Rights devolv'd on her said Majesty by the Death of the defunct King of *Spain*; and voluntarily consent, that all the Princes and Potentates which will, may reciprocally give to the Parties their Guaranty of what each shall sign.

That the States finding his Majesty's abovesaid Propositions and Offers reasonable, and that he has much moderated them, as they know, at their Entreaty and on Consideration of them, reciprocally promise to his Majesty that they will employ all their Offices with the *Spaniards*, with all manner of Diligence and Earnestness to incline them, betwixt this and the end of *March*, to the acceptance of one of the two Alternatives; and then or after the said time is expir'd, his Majesty cannot be esteem'd and reputed by the said States to have refus'd the Peace, but only the said *Spaniards*, to whom consequently all Assistance, of whatever nature it is or may be, in the continuation of this War, shall not only be refus'd by the said State, but they shall join their Forces in competent number, and not less than—of Infantry and Horse, till they shall be able in Conjunction to oblige the said *Spaniards* to sign the Peace.

The States farther promise to his Majesty not to furnish any Subsidy of Money to any Prince or Potentate of the Empire, or out of the said Empire, who will employ his Arms against the King, in favour of the *Spaniards* in the continuation of this War, when the *Spaniards* shall have refus'd the Peace on the Conditions here above specify'd, of one of the two Alternatives. As to the Point of *Portugal*, as his Majesty knows that the Resolution is taken at *Madrid* to treat with the King of *Portugal* directly from King to King, which form'd

form'd the sole Difficulty which stopp'd the conclusion of this Accommodation before the Treaty mad betwixt *France* and *Portugal*; that this Offer must have been already made to the King of *Portugal*, and that 'tis not to be believ'd that the *Spaniards* will retract it as to this Point, and to all others adjusted, the real Business in hand should be to put an end to all the Evil of Christendom by the speedy conclusion of a good Accommodation: His Majesty will content himself on this Head with the States, promising to use all manner of pressing Instances with the *Spaniards*, to keep them in the good Resolution of treating the Peace with the King of *Portugal*, directly from King to King; his said Majesty well knowing that he cannot reasonably require of his Friends and Allies beyond the said Offices in an Affair wholly foreign to them; but reserving to himself at the same time, in case of the invincible Obstinacy of the said *Spaniards*, to do what he is oblig'd to, that he may never be wanting to the Treaty which he has with the King of *Portugal*.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne : November 24, 1667.

THE Courier arriv'd so late, that I have scarce had time to read the decypher'd Dispatches which you did me the Honour to write, to talk to the bottom with Monsieur *de Wit*, who came not to tell me 'till a Moment before the departure of this Post. Yet I have not fail'd to acquaint him with the Substance of all that the King objected against his last Project. I then fell on the Points which facilitate the Accommodation, and which have been hitherto such an Obstacle, that 'twas not practicable to make even a Proposition to the States. He thinks the Article which regards *Portugal* to be too obscure, and that it does not sufficiently clear the King's Intentions on the Peace; he could wish that

'twas

'twas drawn up in this Form; that the States promise to use their pressing Offices when the Peace is making with *Portugal*, to the end that the King of *Spain* shou'd treat with him; directly from King to King; that if nevertheless that could not be obtain'd by the above-said Offices, the said States on one side should be oblig'd to proceed farther to Arms with regard to that Point, and the King on the other side; the other Articles being to be obtain'd of the *Spaniards*, should not delay concluding the Treaty of Peace on the said other Articles.

The Reason which he alledg'd is, that the King's Project expresses its self in such a manner, as tho' his Majesty should think himself oblig'd not to conclude the Peace with *Spain*, if *Portugal* had not Satisfaction, and that so all that the States should do with him on all the Articles would be null.

As to the Allies, the said *Sieur de Wit* believes 'twould be advantageous to the King, that when his Majesty and the States shall be agreed on all Points, they should together, and in Concert, endeavour to bring them to the same Agreement.

He is satisfied with the Guaranty of the Princes and Potentates in the Form propos'd by his Majesty.

As to what regards the Declaration of joining the Arms of the States with those of the King, in case that the *Spaniards* refuse one of the two Propositions of Accommodation, he says, That he will not undertake that it will succeed, but also that it will not pass the Assembly of the States without Difficulty; the City of *Amsterdam*, of which *Monfieur van Benningen* is one of the Members, being against it, by reason of the Disturbance 'twould give their Trade, and that he had gain'd some Cities who are dispos'd to it.

As for the whole Province of *North-Holland*, we are secure of it. He believes that, besides the little Inclination that the People have to enter into a War, 'twould be impossible to engage them in one, if even all should be united for it, if we did not from the

present agree on a Partition, like that which had been mention'd after the Death of the King of Spain.

To treat of all these Affairs, it being necessary to confer with the Deputies of Secret Affairs, the *Sieur de Wit* will desire it of the States, that I may give the King an Account with more Certainty of all that shall pass in our Conferences.

I shall not, unless at the Extremity, relax that mention'd in your Dispatch, concerning the States Obligations to break with Spain, in case of a Refusal.

Lowigny is arriv'd at the Hague from *Castel Rodrigo* and, with *Don Efraim de Gamarra*, has seen all the Deputies of *Holland* at their Apartments, to ask their Assistance, and continue the same Practices which they have us'd ever since the King's Arms enter'd the *Netherlands*.

The *Sieur de Wit* assur'd me, that all the Answer was, That they would not hearken to any Proposition which run counter to the Observation of their Treaties, and that they would remain firm in the King's Interests.

That as for what regard'd *Monsieur Maermax*, *Monsieur de Wit* assur'd me there was nothing in it, and that 'twas an Artifice of the *Spaniards*; that if he would have believed all that they told him that *Monsieur de Rouvigny* propos'd to the King of *England* against the States, he should have had Room to have precaution'd himself, but that he reject'd these Advices, as coming from a suspected Place; That he gave me his Word, as a Man of Honour, that he would do nothing against the Treaties which the States had with *France*; and that they would remain firm in its Interests.

I send you a Project of a Treaty, which the *Sieur Kempinck*, Envoy from the Cardinal of *Hesse*, has made with the Province of *Holland*, concerning the Estate which there is in that Province belonging to the Order of *Malta*. We have hasten'd in the making of it, after having found by a Series of so many Years, that 'twas impossible to compass that End, if he did not treat with the

the Provinces in particular; and I thought at last, that 'twas proper to embrace the Counsel of those who represented to us the Impossibility of succeeding without that, and the Advantages which the Order will draw from these particular Treaties, as that which is concluded with the States of *Holland*, with the Approbation of the Order; for after that they shall have pay'd, they will be willing that the other Provinces shall also pay, and permit the Seizure of the Estates which the Province of *Utrecht* possesses in this. The Sum which is stipulated by this Treaty seems to be very small, but 'twill be found to be large in Reality, if we consider the Revenue which is so moderate, that after we shall have deducted the Expences necessary for Alms, which are very great, for the Buildings, and the Charges of the State, there will scarce remain above the fourth Part; so that if the other Provinces pay in Proportion, the Order may have some Reason to complain of those who don't make an intire Restitution of what belongs to it, but not of those who have, on this Occasion, done all that could be desir'd of their Diligence and Affection, to obtain for it an Equivalent in some sort.

The Bishop of *Presburg* is expected at the *Hague* in two Days, to confer with Monsieur *de Wit* on the Affair of the Peace.

The Archbishop of *Mentz's* Nephew wrote to the said *Sieur de Wit*, that his Uncle approv'd of all his Thoughts concerning the manner of acting for the said Accommodation.

I have so little Time, and the Departure of the Post presses so hard upon me, that I am oblig'd to refer to the next Post the writing to you amply on all the Orders which I have receiv'd from the King by your Dispatches; I will proceed no farther, but will only tell you, that the Assembly of the States began Yesterday; that 'tis very numerous, and that all the several Parties are seen to go into and come out of the Deputy's Houses every Moment.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count.
D'Estrades: November 25, 1667.

THE King's Dispatch is so full, that I have nothing to add, unless it be to confirm to you yet more strongly, that considering things which pass where you are, one ought to have great reason to suspect, that they propos'd to remove you further, for no other Reason than to deprive you of a Way of traversing the Conclusion of them, and consequently, that the Talk of a Partition was nothing but an Amusement. We shall be soon satisfied; yet it may very probably happen, that Monsieur de Wit may not find Means to take his Measures elsewhere in several places in the same manner which he proposes, if he has not a real Intention that his Masters should remain united with the King.

I will cause to be deliver'd here to Monsieur Puffendorf, the King's Present to the Widow and Children of Monsieur Fleming. You will observe, Sir, on the Subject of the Partition, That when the Treaty of 1635 was made, the King had not the great Number of Places which he afterwards had by the *Pyrenean Peace*; nor he had not the Rights which devolv'd on the Queen by the Death of the King of *Spain*; nor was he in possession, as he is at present, of several Places, and a great Extent of Land which his Arms have master'd the last Campaign, which I don't alledge to raise any Difficulty, with regard to the Partition of 1635; but to give you room to make appear to Monsieur de Wit, that in the present posture of Affairs, 'twill be, beyond Comparison, less advantageous to his Majesty, than it was in 1635, and consequently give the States greater Advantages.

The King is advis'd, that there is continually a great Number of Privateers at *Flushing*, which take Commissions from *Ostend* to cruise on his Majesty's Subjects, on whom they have already made several Depredations:

His

His Majesty desires that you will warmly complain of it to the States, and such as the Affair requires to be address'd to, that they may take care to suppress this scandalous Disorder amongst Allies, and that he be not oblig'd himself to put his Hand to the remedying it by such Measures as he shall think fit, it being a thing unsufferable.

The States Ambassador has at last, in express Terms, propos'd a League against the King, to the King of *England*, and was ready to put it in Writing, as he was desir'd.

To evince to you, that the King is well inform'd of the fine Projects which are hatch'd in *Holland*, I shall tell you, besides what is hinted by the King's Letter, that the Sum with which the States will furnish the *Spaniards*, is Five Millions of *Florins*, which, 'tis pretended, the latter are to employ to gain *Sweden*, the *Elect*or of *Brandenburg*, *Brunswick*, &c. and that pursuant to this Project, *Spain* is to be included in the said League; but that this is to be kept secret at the beginning, because they design to pretend the League for the Peace, which they are to propose to the King for the Restitution of his Conquests; and that his Majesty refusing it, as it will doubtless happen, the whole Confederacy will then join with the *Spaniards* to force his Majesty, and take even half of *France*. I assure you that the Treaty of Partition is a more secure Method for the States to procure Peace, than this League which they would form; tho' Monsieur de *Wit* advis'd Monsieur de *Blanspil* to go to *Brussels*, and conclude a Treaty there, which, I hope, will not have its Effect, tho' even it should be sign'd.

The *Spaniards* having return'd no Answer, since the King express'd to Monsieur *van Beuninghen* his being willing to engage himself till the End of *March*, not to attempt any thing on their fortified Towns, provided that they would reciprocally oblige themselves to the same thing; 'twill be proper, and is also necessary, that you declare to the States, That his Majesty, by reason of the long

Silence of the *Spaniards*, being tied to nothing, they ought not to be surpriz'd if they hear that his Arms have made some new Conquests this Winter, to the end they, nor none else may say, after it shall have happen'd, That his Majesty has broke his Word.

From the King to the Count D'Estades:
November 25, 1667..

I Saw in your Dispatch of the 17th, the Assurances which the *Sieur de Wis* gave you of inclining the States to break with *Spain*, in case it refuses the Accommodation; and that the said *de Wis* was of Opinion, that in order to the better concerting of all things, you should take a Turn hither to give me an Account by Word of Mouth of all that he should have said to you on the Affair, and with all Diligence bring back to him my Intentions.

I don't think it proper for you to quit your Post for a single Moment, because I know, beyond all Doubt, that there pass there certain Negotiations, the Effect of which will be extreme prejudicial to me, if they come to a Conclusion; and tho' I should repose a great Confidence in the Friendship of the *Sieur de Wis*, I should have room to suspect, that the Reason why he would remove you for some time, is, that he may the better form his Resolutions, during your Absence, without your having an Opportunity of penetrating, and consequently of opposing them. In a Word, tho' they have told you what seems contrary, the Affair which is at present upon the Carpet, principally by the Interposition of the Minister of a *German* Prince, which I could, if I would, easily name, is to furnish the *Spaniards* with a great Sum of Mony, under pretence of Purchase, or the engaging of their Towns, which may, in case their own Measures fail, serve them to gain the Friendship, and secure the Assistance of the *Swede*,
the

the Electors of *Saxony* and *Brandenburg*, and the House of *Brunswick*, to form all these Princes into a League, of which the Emperor is to be the Head; into which the States will secretly enter, having by the means of this Assistance two Advantages, the one of getting Towns of the *Spaniards*, and the other to make War with the Forces of others underhand, and without appearing in it, will have discharg'd themselves also of the Subsidies which they hitherto paid to the House of *Brunswick* and the Elector of *Brandenburg*. This is a fine Project, if it can succeed; and for my part also, I find no Friends which will do me the same Service, with regard to those who will have treated me so well, after I have put the Peace into their Hands, on Conditions which they themselves propos'd to, and declar'd they desir'd of me; and that 'tis also certain that this Peace depends on nothing but the bare Declaration which the States might make at *Madrid*, if they would, that in case that the *Spaniards* refuse the said Conditions, which they are agreed on with me, they are resolv'd for their own Interest, rather than make War with an Ally, from whom they have lately receiv'd so many Assurances in their great Extremity of Necessity, to join their Forces with mine to oblige *Spain* to the Acceptance of the said Conditions, Reason of State not permitting them to see all the *Low-Countries* fall into my Power, without, at least, diminishing it as much as they can by the Corjunction of their Arms with mine; 'tis beyond all doubt, that this sole Declaration would produce the Peace in an instant.

The new Treaty of Partition, of which you speak to me in your last Dispatch, would also equally cause the same Effect, as to the Expedition of the Conclusion of the Peace; and I will believe partly from the *Sieur de Wit's* Prudence, and partly for the Affection which he has for me, that after having well weigh'd all the Reasons on one side and the other, and without doubt recollected that all the other Leagues which are negotiating, are not exempt from much Confusion,

and many Rocks, and that the true Interest of his Masters, their Advantage and Security concur beyond Comparison much better with keeping themselves continually united with my Crown; he will apply himself in good earnest, and intirely, to push on the said Treaty of Partition, to which I am intirely dispos'd on my part, and to execute it sincerely after it shall be made, in case that the *Spaniards* will not betwixt this and the end of *March* accept one of the two Alternatives which I have offer'd.

To accelerate the Treaty, if there be at the bottom such real Intentions, 'tis not necessary that you come hither, on the contrary, 'twould be so much time vainly lost. The said *de Wit* may tell you the bottom of his Thoughts concerning it, and acquainting me with it, I will with utmost Diligence inform you of my Intentions. If we were to form the first Model, that might be long doing, but we have happily the Treaty of 1635, which regulates you. Let me know by the first what has been said to you, for I cannot remain in uncertainty, and without precautioning my self, whilst so many others labour to raise Obstacles against me. On this I pray.

Memorial of the Count D'Estrades, presented to the States-General of the United Provinces of the Low-Countries: November 30, 1667.

THE Count D'Estrades, Ambassador Extraordinary of France, has Order from the King his Master, to represent to your Lordships, that his Majesty has had Advice that there are daily great numbers of *Flushing* Privateers, who take Commissions from *Ostend*, to cruize on his Subjects, on which they have already made several Depredations; and he has

charg'd

charg'd the said Ambassador to make very great Complaints to your Lordships, and such as in reality the Occasion requires, to the end that they may take care to suppress this scandalous Disorder, which may draw on an infinite number of others, if not speedily remedy'd: For which Reason the said Ambassador Extraordinary entreats your Lordships to make their serious Reflections on an Inconvenience of this Nature, which cannot be born amongst Allies in any manner whatsoever, and to act so that by the Resolution which shall be taken on the present Memorial, his Majesty may be assur'd, that this Disorder shall intirely cease, without his being oblig'd by its continuation to put an end to it himself by the Means which he shall think of. Given at the *Hague*, November 30, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King:
December 1, 1667.

Yesterday and this Day, I have had Conferences with *Messieurs de Wit* and *van Benningen*, the last being Commissioner on the Affairs of *France* from the City of *Amsterdam*. I acquainted them with the Contents of your Majesty's Dispatches, at which they seem'd surpriz'd, protesting both of them, and swearing on their Salvation, that there is nothing in *Monsieur Meerman's* Instructions concerning the Affairs of the *Netherlands*, unless that the State is resolv'd to labour effectually for an Accommodation betwixt *France* and *Spain*, and invites *England* to enter into the same Intentions; and that the said *Sieur de Meerman* has propos'd nothing to the King of *England*, nor had any discourse with the Ambassador *Molina* which exceeded the limits of these Terms. The said *Sieurs de Wit* and *van Benningen* protested with the same Oaths, that it never
entred

entred the Intention of the Members of the Province of *Holland*, to make any League with *Spain*, nor with any Prince of *Germany* against *France*, nor to act separately nor jointly towards the expulsion of the Conquests which your Majesty has lately made in the *Netherlands*.

That indeed there had been some Conferences betwixt the *Spanish* Ministers and some of the State, on the engagement and hypothequing some Places in the *Netherlands* for a Sum of Mony.

That the Conventions which had been projected with the *German* Princes, imported no more than that we all should labour at an Accommodation betwixt *France* and *Spain*, and that to prevent Affairs in the mean time being subject to prejudicial Alterations, we should bring both Parties to a Cessation of Arms, and that your Majesty might consider whether the Intention of the States was to be blam'd in that, as it seems your Majesty judges, since you have been assur'd by me, that the said States, the Cessation of Arms provided, will never declare your Majesty the Refuser, as long as you will content your self with the Conditions of Peace by you propos'd.

That the Discourse of the said Engagement was at a time when the Peoples Minds were fill'd with Uneasiness and Distrust, on your Majesty's letting three Months pass without replying to the Advances which had been made by the Discourse of the *Sieur de Wis*.

That at present they are entirely got out of all these Engagements, and that there is a sincere and intire Disposition in the State to co-operate strenuously and vigorously to procure for your Majesty the Satisfaction which you desire of *Spain*, and to invite the Friends of the States in *Germany* to enter into the same Intentions, and the same Engagements with them, for the same end, without any League which might be disagreeable to your Majesty; and that the States giving your Majesty all the effectual Marks of the clearness and sincerity of their Intentions in this, desire he will also please to set

set their Minds at rest, by not pushing his Conquests, in case the War continues, farther on the Side of the *Netherlands*; That what the States could agree on in this, is so strenuous and efficacious towards the procuring of the said Peace, that a better effect could not be expected from the Declaration against *Spain*, which your Majesty presses so hard, as what the States and their Allies should do to oblige the *Spaniards* to Peace.

So far are the States from giving his Majesty any occasion of continuing in any Jealousie that they would contribute by their Counsels to retard the conclusion of the Peace, that it will doubtless appear in all their Proceedings that they will accept as much as is possible for them, and so that if in the Propositions which may be advanc'd for the conduct of this Affair, your Majesty may observe, that if there be any Points which remove farther distant the hopes of the Peace, that the States are always dispos'd to give Satisfaction on that Head, provided that your Majesty also agrees with them on Expedients which serve to remove the Apprehension of the Conquest of the *Netherlands* by his Arms; that if your Majesty will give Security to the States against the said Apprehensions, they will secure that the States shall make no difficulty of agreeing to your Majesty all that you can desire of them, that they will not occasion any prejudice to the Design of safely attaining the said Peace.

I answer'd them, that I would give your Majesty an account of the good Intentions which the States declar'd to have, to continue firmly ally'd to his Interests, and reject the Propositions which should be made to them to the contrary: That to effect these good Intentions, there is a shorter way than that which they propos'd, which is to signify to the States and Princes of the Empire, that your Majesty contenting himself with a Partition, if they did not conform to it by the last of *March*, they should be oblig'd to join their Arms with those of his, and attack *Flanders* jointly.

That

That what I said to them was ~~verbal~~ conform to the Proposition which Monsieur de Wit made to Monsieur Courvis and me, and that I hop'd that the States would find so many Advantages in this first Overture, that they would not let slip the occasion of profiting by it.

That I found his Proposition very defective, it not mentioning a prefix'd time concerning the Suspension of Arms, no more than that which is necessary to know whether the *Spaniards* will accept or refuse the Conditions of Accommodation; that I was assur'd that your Majesty had so much Goodness for the States, that he would accommodate himself as much as possible to the Constitutions of the State; but to come so far, Explications were necessary; that I did not understand what they would say, when they pray your Majesty to remove their Jealousies and Distrusts; that I did not see that you could do any thing of greater Force, nor which better shew'd your Inclination for them, than to put the Peace into their Hands; that in all the Conferences which I have had with him, the *Sieur de Wit*, on this Affair, he kept to nothing which he advanc'd; that I would willingly believe that the present Disposition of the Inclinations of the Deputies of the Cities, on the Affairs on which we are treating, are not so fix'd that they cannot alter, and that then he spoke of himself, and that I depend on the Word of a Minister, who ought to have the consent of his Masters, but that it appears a few Days after to be nothing, because the States have not consented to it; that accordingly I pray'd them both, since they were nominated Commissioners of the secret Affairs, to tell me whether they had Power from their Superiors to talk with me, or whether they came of themselves; for in this last case I should take our Conference to be in vaine. To which the *Sieur de Wit* answer'd me, that they had confer'd with the Commissioners of secret Affairs before they came to me, that they were agreed

on all that he had told me, with a desire to have room to remove the Distrust which he had express'd to me.

That if in case of the Refusal of the propos'd Conditions by the *Spaniards*, your Majesty would give Assurances to attempt nothing in the *Netherlands*, and to keep only the Towns garrison'd, and an Army on the defensive, which is the only thing which could remove the Jealousie of the States, they both of them find in the States an intire Disposition that your Majesty push your Conquests against *Spain* in the *Franche Comte*, *Spain*, *Catalonia* and *Italy*; and that both of them don't at all doubt but that in this Case, if the *Spaniards*, the Emperor, or some other *German* Prince, should join to attack any one of your Majesty's Towns, or enter into *France* to make Conquests, the States would declare War, or attack the *Low-Countries* with all their Forces. On which I reply'd, that the pretext of the Rupture is as strong by the *Spaniards* Refusal of the Peace on the Conditions which they themselves had propos'd, as by the attack of some one of the Places which your Majesty has conquer'd.

I press'd hard on the Conditions of your Majesty's last Project, on which the *Sieur van Benningen* cry'd out aloud that 'twould be the Ruin of *Amsterdam*, who traded for thirty Millions in *Spain* and the *Indies*, and brought back sixty Millions, and that she would never consent to it. I told him, that 'twould be the same thing when your Majesty should be attack'd, in case that he turn'd his Arms elsewhere; to which he reply'd, that there was a great deal of difference in that, the *Spaniards* or *Germans* would be Aggressors, and that by the Treaty of 1662 the States are oblig'd to break when the King is attack'd. In short, Sir, 'twould take up a Quire of Paper to give your Majesty an account of all that was said on both sides; we were above four Hours on this Subject. I forgot no Argument contain'd in your Memorial, and your Dispatches. Certainly *Monsieur de Wit* will not communicate to the States all that he Advances; this

is not that he has a Design to deceive, for I know, beyond a possibility of Doubt, that if he had been hearken'd to, the States had broke in case of Refusal, and we have also many Cities of this Opinion, but they are not strong enough to oppose *Amsterdam* and *Rotterdam*, who are utterly against it, and that so far that they rejected the Proposal of the Partition, when many others were inclin'd to it. Perhaps another Conjunction may be more favourable, and we may re-assume what is to be quitted at present. I have seen that Monsieur *de Wit* for six Months successively could not bring the Cities of *Amsterdam*, *Haerlem* and *Rotterdam*, to break with *England*, for the same Interest that they had seven hundred Merchant Ships in *Spain* and in the *Mediterranean*; yet a time came when not only these Cities broke with that Kingdom, but also were the warmest in maintaining the War against it.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: December 1, 1667.

MESSIEURS *Beverning* and *van Beuningen* jointly solicited the Cities of *Holland* for a vacant Commission of Captain of Horse for one of their Relations, notwithstanding that they knew that Monsr. *de Wit*, his Brother the Burgomaster of *Dort*, and his Cousin German of the same Name, who is one of the States-General, had taken their Measures with the Cities to obtain their Nomination in favour of one of their Nephews, and obtain'd the Promise of the Cities of *Amsterdam*, *Haerlem*, *Tergow* and *Rotterdam*, which perswaded Monsieur *de Wit* that the Affair was secure.

In their Solicitation Messieurs *Beverning* and *van Beuningen* loudly declar'd, and gave the Deputies to understand, that the Republick was not Free, if all Employments and Posts depended on a single Family; that for their Parts, they had rather wholly retire out
of

of the Country than remain in it, and be Witnesses of such unjust Practices; that their Relation was Lieutenant of the vacant Company, and that the Relation of *Messieurs de Wit* was a young Man, and Cornet of another Troop; that the States were absolute Masters and Judges of the Merit of the Pretenders, without some other Consideration induc'd them to favour either one or the other of them; but that they would always continue firm for Liberty, and oppose all Oppression.

This Argument was push'd so far by each of them, that the Cities of *Amsterdam, Harlem, Tergow* and *Rosserdam* told Monsieur *de Wit*, that they could not keep their promise, and that in Justice the Company ought to be given to the Lieutenant.

The *Sieur de Wit* very prudently thank'd them for their Advice, and dropp'd the Sollicitation; and Yesterday the Company was bestow'd on the Lieutenant, pursuant to the Desire of *Messieurs Beverning* and *van Benningen*.

You are not to doubt, Sir, but this has touch'd the Family of the *de Wits*; but such Mortifications frequently happen amongst such People as these.

The *Spaniards* lost no Time in this Conjunction, but push'd on their Interest; the last Twenty thousand Crowns which *Louigny* brought by a Bill of Exchange from *Rodrigo*, a Banker of *Antwerp*, address'd to *Mendes Flores* his Correspondent at *Amsterdam*, were paid to *Richard* Secretary of the *Spanish* Embassy. You will see by the King's Letter all that Monsieur *de Wit* and *van Benningen* said to me concerning the present State of Affairs: You are not, if you please, to be surpriz'd with the Alterations which you observe in the different Propositions which are made, because all that Monsieur *de Wit* thinks reasonable, and could have carry'd at another time, he cannot at present. What I can tell you is, That I believe that he acts sincerely to obtain for the King the Satisfaction which his Majesty demands; that the Proposition which he made of my taking a Turn into *France*, was for no other Reason than that Four Cities

Cities were inclin'd to the Partition, but at present are no longer so; and he told in me two Days after the Departure of the Post, as being then not of Opinion that I should go to *France*. So that from thence it may be judg'd that he does not desire to remove me, in order to conclude any thing, during my absence, to the King's prejudice. I can also assure you, that he knows very well, that his own Interest, as well as that of the States, is not to separate from *France*: But I intreat you, Sir, reflect on the Methods of this Government, the Diversity of Cabals and Factions in it, and that frequently to bring about what is desir'd, the direct contrary Road is taken. I see great appearance, if the King will resolve to accommodate himself to their weakness, which is to rid them of all their Jealousies of the Conquest of *Flanders*, that they may be insensibly brought to a Rupture, in case that the King of *Spain* attacks any one of the places in his Majesty's possession, or from the Side of the Empire there be any Confederacy to that end. In short, Sir, you'll see by the King's Dispatch what pass'd betwixt Messieurs *de Wis*, *van Benningen* and me, in two Conferences which we had yesterday and to day; and that those which I have had with several Deputies of Cities, are conform to them.

The Cities of *Amsterdam* and *Rotterdam*, where are the Seats of the Admiralty, will by no means hear of breaking with *Spain*, by reason of their great Interest in Trade; the City of *Amsterdam* alone has Five hundred Ships in *Spain*, *Smirna* and the *Mediterranean*, with a Cargo of Thirty Millions, which will bring home Sixty, if they return safe into Port.

I intreat you to manage cautiously what I particularly told you of the Quarrel of Monsieur *de Wis* with Messieurs *Beuering* and *van Benningen*. They are reconcil'd, but I must tell you, in Confidence, that a plurality of *Casars* cannot long continue together; that Monsieur *Beuering* has already been oblig'd to accept the Commission to go to *Germany*, Colleague to Prince *Maurice*; and that Monsieur *van Benningen* excuses him-

himself from going to *France*, what Offers and Advantages soever are made him on that account; having the City of *Amsterdam* on his side, I believe they will have a great deal of Trouble to remove him out of this Country, where he is in great Credit.

The Cabal of the Prince of *Orange* not falling in with the Interests of *Monsieur de Wit*, yesterday the States of *Holland* resolv'd to abolish the Charge of *Stadtholder* for ever, the whole Assembly taking an Oath never to hearken to, nor to accept any Proposition for the Restauration of it; which was entred in the Register: We shall in some time see somewhat very different; you may judge, Sir, that in all these sorts of Alterations there must be time to take Measures; and 'tis impossible to talk justly on this Head from day to day.

As for the Journey of the *Sieur Blanspil* to *Brussels*, *Monsieur de Wit* protests, that he had no other Commission from him to treat of any Affair, than that he barely said to him, that when he should see *Castel Rodrigo*, he should intimate to him, That if he did not so manage Affairs as to make them tend to giving the King Satisfaction, the States would at last be oblig'd to push things so far, and that in Conjunction with *France*, that the *Spaniards* would regret the loss of the Opportunity of an Accommodation; that he did not think the King had any Reason to complain of his Conduct, since he did all in his Power to procure what he demanded; that his Advice was not always follow'd, and that very often 'twas necessary to recoil, in order to take the Leap the farther.

The States have written to *Zealand*, and highly complain'd of the Privateers which take *Ostend* Commissions, and order'd that they be severely chastis'd.

As for the Pretension of the *Sieur de Magdelaine*, the States have resolv'd, from the time that he has been in *Holland*, to give him 3000 Livres for the Ransom of all the Prisoners, which they will pay to *Monsieur d'Espagne*, Major of *La Ferte's* Regiment: They never re-assume Affairs after such Resolutions.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: December 2, 1667.

THE King has seen your Dispatch of the 24th, and we are to stay for the next to know more thoroughly the Sentiments of Monsieur de Wit, on his Majesty's of the 18th, of which you had but a Moment's time to talk with him. Notwithstanding which, he said enough to you to make his Majesty judge that these Gentlemen would very willingly tie up his Hands, and remain themselves intirely free; and they to that end make very good use of the Point of *Portugal*, as an everlasting Pretext against a Treaty which they had concerted with the King, and promis'd his Majesty. But yet they will have some Difficulty, whatever may happen, ever to draw from him, either thro' the pretext of the Obscurity of the Article, or any other, a Declaration that his Majesty is capable of breaking Faith and Honour, by failing in another which he has made with the King of *Portugal*, if that Prince himself is not the first that breaks it, and that it will soon clearly appear; for when the last *Spanish* Post left *Madrid*, not only the Ministers, but even none of the Vulgar were ignorant that the Queen of *Spain* would by all means send Don *John* of *Austria* to the *Netherlands*; that he expressly declar'd, that he would not go thither, unless the Accommodation with *Portugal* was made; that on this the Resolution was taken to offer in *Portugal* by the *English* Ministers, to treat directly from King to King, and no longer of a Truce, but make a Peace (which were the two sole Difficulties of the Treaty) in case that the King of *Portugal* would consent to depart from the Alliance which he has made with *France*.

We may then say probably, and that very truly, that in less than a Month we shall know whether the *Portuguese* have accepted the Peace, and Title of King, on

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Condition of abandoning the Alliance of *France*; or whether they will have rejected it, and resolv'd to remain firm in the said Alliance, and honestly fulfil their Treaty with us. In the first Case the States will no longer have the Pretext which they at present set such a Value on, to prevent binding themselves. In the second, we don't believe here, that they themselves would advise his Majesty to abandon a King, who to continue firm on his side, shall have refus'd an Accommodation accompanied with all the other Conditions which he could desire for himself, except those of Security.

As to the said first Case, all the Difficulties of his Majesty's Accommodation with *Spain*, will be remov'd between his Majesty and the States, since he has consented to satisfy himself with what Monsieur *de Wit* himself propos'd; that is to say, to retrench his first Pretensions. As for the second, if the States desire the Accommodation, they will find, doubtless, that the most secure and shortest Way to attain it, will be that of declaring to the *Spaniards*, with necessary Vigour, that they must grant to the Re-establishment of the publick Peace, what they would have yielded, and even offer'd, to continue the Disturbance of it; that is to say, to treat of Peace, and from King to King, with the King of *Portugal*.

'Tis certain that no less is necessary than a Declaration of this Nature, and also accompanied with all the other Demonstrations requisite to the joining and uniting of the Forces, to dispose *Spain* to Peace: For by a single Circumstance which has just happen'd, we may easily judge they are not at *Madrid* in any Vein which tends that way. You already know that the King, at the Request of the Pope, sent to the Cardinal *Visconti*, a Nuncio in *Spain*, blank Passes for the Plenipotentiaries which the Queen of *Spain* should name and send to the place of Meeting, where it should be agreed to treat of Peace; but by Letters of the tenth of this Month, the Cardinal acquaints the Abbot *Vibo*, who transacts the Affairs of his Holiness here, that he had

receiv'd the said Passports, but that they were useless, because the Queen of *Spain* would not consent to treat but only in the following three Places, *Rome, Venice* or the *Pyrenees*.

The first Reflection to be made on this is, That the full Powers which *Castel Rodrigo* had, are either false or illusory.

The second, That *Spain* does not set a great Value on the Mediation of other Princes, besides that of the Pope and the Republick of *Venice*; pretending, doubtless, that other Potentates are oblig'd, by their own Interest, to assist her, and consequently to act a Part very different from that of bare Mediators, which they will not let them take.

The third Reflection is, That she has no real Design to treat, but only to drive on the Difficulties and Contests of the Preliminaries till the End of *March*, hoping that in that time the other Princes will afresh address themselves to the King, to pray and press him to grant a new Term of Cessation of Hostilities, without pretending to make use of the time for the Negotiation; which his Majesty most certainly will not grant, nor can he do it without acting against even the Peace it self, to which his Enemies will never consent but by pure Force, and without besides suffering irreparable Damages; that he may not be oblig'd to maintain in vain, and at the sole Expence of his Kingdom and Subjects, the great Armies which he shall then have form'd, and which Prudence will not at present permit him to interrupt the Cares of for one bare Moment.

Monsieur *de Wis* did the King Justice, in believing nothing that some would have perswaded him, that Monsieur *de Rouvigny* had at *London* made several Propositions against the States, for nothing is so false as that Imposture; I don't say but that if the States in time take Steps against this Crown, contrary to our Treaties, that his Majesty will not then employ all means that he can think of, and which shall be in his power, in order to suffer the least Damage that will be possible; but I
hope

hope that will not happen; and his Majesty is very well pleas'd with, and puts great Confidence in the Promise which Monsieur *de Wu* lately gave you, That his Masters would do nothing contrary to the Treaties, and remain firm to his Majesty's Interests.

Memorial of the Count D'Estrades presented to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: December 5, 1667.

THE Count *d'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, prays your Lordships to grant a Pass for the Marquis *d'Estrades* his Daughter-in-law, who is ready to return into *France* with her Coach Horses, and Nine Saddle-Horses for the Persons which will accompany her, the whole Number being Fifteen Horse; and they being Horses of Service belonging to the said Marquis, and not lately bought in this Country, the said Ambassador will be very much oblig'd to your Lordships, if it will please them to comprehend in the said Passport an Exemption from the Tolls and Customs which may be demanded for the said Horses, as well in *Holland* as in *Zealand*, thro' which she is to pass, that she may meet with no Trouble on that account in her Passage; and your Lordships will in this do him a very singular Favour, and without Resumption. Deliver'd at the *Hague*, December 5, 1667.

D'ESTRADES.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: December 8, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the second Instant. I could wish that Affairs could proceed on as swift in a Republick, as in a Kingdom; but there happen Incidents which interrupt them; that of the Letters which Don *Esteven de Gamarra* has written to the Cities, and the Memorial which he presented to the States of *Holland* against Monsieur *de Wit*, giving them all to understand, that he led them by the Nose like Children, that he treated at the same time with *Spain* and *France*, that from *Spain* he would buy Places, and bind himself in her Interests, and that to *France* he promis'd to make the States break and attack *Flanders* in Conjunction with her, and constrain the *Spaniards* to a Peace; to which he added many things against the said *Sieur de Wit*. He not being belov'd by every Body, this gives him some trouble, of which I believe he will clear himself to his Advantage. *Monf. de Beverning, van Benningen* and he, are very closely cemented together. The first will go into *Germany*, and the second still excuses his return into *France*, and Monsieur *de Wit* sets all imaginable Springs on work to make him go.

Since my last Dispatch, the Assembly of the States of *Holland* broke up, and does not meet again 'till to Morrow. The Deputies went to consult their Superiors on all that pass'd betwixt Monsieur *de Wit*, *van Benningen* and me, of which I gave the King an account last Post. I persisted in telling those Gentlemen and the Deputies, that I saw the King would not recede from any Part of his last Project: that if they would have Peace, they had nothing to do but to resolve on it, and that they must not longer amuse his Majesty by Tergiversations. I forgot nothing at the same time requisite to keep *North-Holland* in the good Sentiments

Sentiments in which it is, and do my Duty on that Conjunction: We are, Sir, at the Crisis of Affairs, and what the *Spanish* Ambassador has said and written against Monsieur de Wit, will not a little help me to push on my side the taking of a good Resolution. Since this Extravagance of that Ambassador, I see many which were cool for Monsieur de Wit grow warm, and take his part. I cannot yet send you any thing positive, but hope that he will bring his Masters to a good Resolution. We must deal by degrees with these People, and not think of bringing them all at once to a Rupture, but engage and bind them in a Treaty, so that they can't help it. I do not yet yield any thing with regard to the Rupture, in case of the *Spaniards* Refusal; on the contrary, I begin to perceive that the principal Cities search after Expedients to find out Terms in which the word *Break* is not express'd, but an Equivalent which will in effect produce the Rupture, that those who negotiate it may not at once affrighten the Cities into a Negative.

Monsieur Colbert has sent me a Bill of Exchange of ten thousand Rixdollars, which amounts to twenty five thousand Livres of our Money, to be employ'd pursuant to the King's Order; Sir, you will please to inform me to what use his Majesty appoints that Sum. I assure you, Sir, that Monsieur de Wit, discerning that the King remains firm to his Project, pursuant to my express Declaration that his Majesty would not in the least recede from it, does his best to bring the Cities as near as possible to the King's Sentiments.

I talk'd with him on the *Portuguese* Affair, he approves what you wrote to me on it, and owns that the King ought not to furnish *Portugal* with a Pretext to separate from his Interests in this conjuncture, but says that he is apprehensive that their Offices will not succeed with the *Spaniards* to the Satisfaction of *Portugal*, and that this Point being sufficient to hinder the Peace, tho' the *Spaniards* should even agree with *France* on the Conditions which his Majesty demands, all En-

deavours of the States would be vain in order to put a final end to this Work, which is their principal aim; and that the States would be very uneasie on having made so many Advances and Declarations, which should prove vain, and only serve to draw on them many Enemies.

To which I reply'd, that the Interest of the Peace depending on it, there appear'd to me no room to hesitate on stepping over the Consideration which he alledg'd to me, by reason that the States alone would have all the Honour of it, it not being to be believ'd that the King of *Portugal*, after refusing the Peace which *Spain* offer'd him, because he would not renounce his Alliance with *France*, could be abandon'd by the King; and that if he thought that in the present Conjuncture the King ought not to do it, his Majesty must be yet more oblig'd to support him, when he shall be truly satisfy'd that he has refus'd this Peace: I see clearly that the *Sieur de Wit* being to satisfy several Cities, all of which are not of our side, meets with Difficulties in things which would easily pass if he was alone; but the Constitution of this State will have it so, and 'tis necessary to accommodate ones self to it sometimes, or seem to do so, to let the ill Humours take their course, and re-assume the Affair at a more favourable Conjuncture.

What you inform me, by a Dispatch, of Cardinal *Visconti*, will be of especial Service to Monsieur *de Wit* and me, to make appear in this meeting of the States, and to the Cities, that the *Spaniards* are not in earnest for the Peace, and that *Rome*, *Venice*, and the *Pyrenees* are not pitch'd on for any other reason, than to make the King lose the time of the Campagne: I also declar'd to him, that whatever might happen, the King would not yield to a Prolongation of the Suspension of Arms beyond the end of *March*, of which I desir'd him to advertise the States.

Monsieur *Courtin* can tell you that it cost us a great deal of Money for the Passage of the Soldiers, which came out of the Prisons during our Residence at *Breda*.

After

After my return to the *Hague*, I gave out eight hundred Passes for Foot Soldiers and Troopers, which I distributed at *Rotterdam*, with a Crown to each for their Passage and Subsistence: All which were taken Prisoners at *Charleroy*, *Dendermonde*, *Mechlen*, *Ghent*, *Bruges* and *Antwerp*, and came to the *Hague*. I have not charg'd these Expences to the King, no more than several others during the meeting of the States of *Holland*, because I hope that serving him faithfully, his Majesty will do something for me or my Family, which will recompence all my Losses. Most of the Soldiers which went thro' *Zealand* came hither all naked, and in a miserable Condition; I gave them Shirts and Cloaths, as they wanted them: If more come, I shall take particular care to assist them, and send them to *France* pursuant to the King's Order.

I have been entreated by Monsieur *de Wit*, to ask you as from my self, whether the King would please that you should write to me, that 'twould be very agreeable to his Majesty in this Conjunction of a Treaty of Peace, that Monsieur *van Beuningen* should come into *France*: I answer'd, that I believ'd that 'twould be soon enough to acquaint you with it, when the States should have resolv'd to content the King on all the Points of his last Project, and that the Affair being at present in agitation amongst the Cities, without really knowing whether 'twould succeed, this Request would be superfluous: Pray if you please send me your Opinion of it.

I entreat you to tell the Grand Prior, that no Endeavours are omitted to prevail on the other Provinces to do as *Holland* has done, with regard to the Estate of the Order of *Malta*. The Bishop of *Strasburg* comes hither to Morrow: The Lodgings for Ambassadors Extraordinary, are prepar'd for him; I shall not fail to pay him my Respects, knowing that he is in the King's Interests.

From

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : December 9, 1667.

IF I had not been in my Bed, as I am, afflicted with very uneasy Pains, your last Dispatch would not have occasion'd any other Answer than these three Words, That 'tis impossible to negotiate any Affairs with People who daily make new Propositions, and who after having obtain'd every thing which they desire, tho' they did not hope it, yet reckon it as nothing, and unsay whatever they advanc'd, on the awkward Excuse that 'tis no longer in their Power. I have engag'd Monsieur *van Benningen* an hundred times on the Proposition which he made, and which they have at present renew'd, that the King carry his Arms into other Places than the *Low-Countries*, and that the States would defend his Conquests, if any would attack them. I can tell you, that the mention'd *van Benningen* was himself somewhat ashamed to make such a Proposal; and nevertheless 'tis yet on the Table, because that they have nothing to the purpose to say besides, than to amuse us with some Appearance of a Negotiation, and depend on that which they have concluded with others; which I yet dare thoroughly answer, will not have any better Success. The King knows the Concert betwixt Monsieur *Meerman*, and *Boreel*, and the *Spanish* Ministers, in several Conferences which they have had, to accompany the Proposition which they are to make to the King of *England* concerning the Means of procuring the Peace, with a vigorous Remonstrance, to make him understand, that 'tis necessary to think at the same time of Ways to hinder the Continuation of the Progress of *France*; and the said *Meerman* and *Boreel* have already promis'd the *Spaniards* to give it in Writing, if desired.

Yet when you complain of it to Monsieur de *Wit*, I don't doubt but he will a second time answer you,
That

That these are only Artifices of the *Spanish* Ministers; but if Affairs continue to go at this rate, the King will also make his Proposals, which perhaps will be of such a Nature, as to be embrac'd as soon as those of any other.

To return at present to what they said to you in the last place, I ask only in case that the King should resolve to carry his Arms to any other Country than the *Netherlands*, what Confidence his Majesty could repose in the States, that with theirs they would defend his Conquests? They which have shew'd so much uneasiness at the seeing them made, who have conceiv'd so many Jealousies, and who own themselves, will leave no possible Means unattempted to oblige him to restore them, if in their Power; and if the Sixty Millions which the Trade of *Spain* brings to the *United-Provinces* at this Juncture, as they themselves say, hinders their daring to declare to the *Spaniards*, that they must conclude the Peace, on the Conditions which Monsieur *de Wit* exacted of his Majesty, that he should consent to; the Consideration of the same Sixty Millions, will it not yet farther hinder the States in good earnest defending those Conquests for the King, which give them so much Uneasiness and Jealousie? If those who have the Honour of his Majesty's Ear in his Councils, should have lost all Sense in the Point of advising him to this Confidence in the States, I assure you that he alone will never do it, being too wise, and too clear-sighted, not to see plainly what would happen.

In short, let the Directors of the State turn the Affair as many ways as they please, I dare say, that to procure a speedy Peace for Christendom, they will not hit on any other good one, nor which will not be subject to a thousand Inconveniencies, Dangers and Perplexities; besides that of declaring to the *Spaniards*, that they must make an Accommodation on the Conditions which have been concerted betwixt his Majesty and the States, or join their Arms to his to force them to it. I seem here incredible, that *Louigny* brought twenty thousand
Crowns

Crowns to distribute in the *United-Provinces*, or only the tenth Part of that Sum; that is to say, to those who know, as the King does beyond possibility of doubting, that the Necessity of Mony is such in the *Netherlands*, that very often the Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo* is very much put to it to find a thousand Crowns; and frequently for want of Five hundred, is forc'd to suffer whole Bodies of Troops to perish. As to the Bill of Exchange of ten thousand Rix-dollars which we have sent you, things are in such a Posture where you are, that his Majesty does not see at present in what you can advantageously employ it; and I believe, that he may order you to return it back, if you don't more particularly express to him to what purpose you appoint it, and that he gives you Power to do it.

ADDITION.

Since the writing of my Letter, I have receiv'd one from *England*, by which we see that the *Dutch* Ambassadors are no longer nice in declaring to several Members of Parliament, which they take to be the *Spaniards* greatest Confidants, that there is no League betwixt *England* and the States which can hinder the Loss of *Flanders*, in which both Nations have so great an Interest. I well know, that they will tell you again, that this is not true; but what will Monsieur *de Wit* answer to what Monsieur *Meerman* himself said to Monsieur *de Ruigny*, that the said *de Wit* wrote to him, that the King's Pretensions on the Peace were so high, that there was no way of accommodating them; that *Luxemburg* is the Gate of *Germany*; that the *Switzers* will never suffer the Alienation of the *Franche Comte*; that *Charleroy* gave too open an Entrance into *Brabant*; and yet the King, as you know, did not demand *Luxemburg* and the *Franche Comte* both, but contented himself with either one or the other; and for *Charleroy*, 'twas agreed to be ras'd. His Majesty at last yielded to what Monsieur *de Wit* desir'd of him, and he writes to the States Ministers, that his Pretensions are too high, and

and that there is no room for Accommodation: This is, Sir, the fair Way which he takes to incline the *Spaniards* to the Peace; but I dare answer for't, that our Affairs won't go worse.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne : December 15, -1667.

YOU will, Sir, have seen by my precedent Dispatch, that I answer'd Messieurs *de Wit* and *van Beuningen*, the same thing which you send me by yours of the ninth, on the Proposition which they made of the King carrying his Arms into some other Country than *Flanders*, in case that the King of *Spain* refused the Conditions of Peace agreed to by the King; they persist still in the same Proposition, and all the other Deputies of the Cities of *Holland* which I have seen are of this Opinion, not being willing to help the King to take *Flanders*, as he would infallibly, if he attack'd it with their Forces: But several of them told me, and particularly the Deputies of *North-Holland*, That being secur'd that the King would content himself with his Conquests, and remove the War elsewhere, they would use their utmost Efforts to encline the other Cities to promise the King to break with *Spain* and the Empire, in case they should undertake any thing against the Places in the King's Possession; and that this would be a Certainty to the King, to be assur'd of keeping what he had; and a Certainty that his Majesty would not be their Neighbour, which they could not in any wise bear. I alledg'd to them what had been told me, That the sole Interest of *Amsterdam*, on account of their Commerce with *Spain*, would always oppose the Rupture; and that the Reason would yet remain, if the King should carry his Arms to any other place than *Flanders*: On which they reply'd, That 'twas not the same thing; that their Promises sign'd by
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a Treaty, were an essential Engagement; that they desir'd the Peace, and that the King had what he demand'd; but that they also desir'd their Securities, and that his Arms should not proceed farther; that they all protested to me, that they would do their utmost to bring the contrary Cities into this Design. This, Sir, is the true State of things at present, and 'tis impossible to rid these People of Distrust, that the King will render himself Master of *Holland*, after he is of the *Netherlands*.

I endeavour'd to efface this Impression, by telling them, that I would do my best to engage the King to consent to the Treaty of Partition made in the Year 1635, and that he should yield to the States the same Conditions. On this, two of the *North-Holland* Deputies, very much my Friends, took me aside, and told me, that fifteen Days past they were all for the Treaty of Partition; but that having propos'd it to the People of *Amurp*, *Bruges* and *Ghent*, and spread Reports by third Persons, That they would be much happier by yielding to the States, than remaining under the *Spaniards*; all the Magistrates and People said, That when they could no longer preserve themselves subject to the *Spaniards*, they would rather yield to *France* than the *Hollanders*, who were Hereticks: That this great Aversion which they had to them, shew'd them that what they would do in case of Hopes of a Partition, would serve only to help all the Cities to take a Resolution to yield the sooner to Fraud; that thus Prudence requir'd them to endeavour their Security, the only way which they could find it; which is, that the King keep to what he possesses, and that they don't contribute to their Destruction by a Declaration of joining their Troops, which would occasion the Loss of the whole Country.

The Prince of *Strasbourg* has been four Days in this Town; he makes use of my Coaches, and came to dine with me, before he gave Audience to the *Spanish* Ambassador; I told him all the Particulars which have occur'd

curr'd in this Negotiation, from the time of Monsieur *de Wit*'s first Proposal, to this present: I thought it proper to inform him of this, before Messieurs *de Wit* and *van Beuningen* should see him, that he might be prepar'd for what they should say, and might let them know, that this way of proceeding would at last tire his Majesty, and oblige him to take his Measures elsewhere: He told me, that in the Conferences which he had with them the day before yesterday, he talk'd boldly to them, and gave them to understand, that the *German* Princes were perswaded, that the King was reduced to very moderate Pretensions, and that 'twas necessary to oblige the *Spaniards* to agree to them; but I did not to day find those Gentlemen more inclin'd to break with them, in case of Refusal, than the last time I talk'd with them. Monsieur *van Beuningen* is the warmest on this Head, and tells all the Members from the Cities, that they must lose their Wits, and be as blind as the *Spaniards* have been, before they can suffer the King to conquer *Flanders*, since *Holland* must follow it; that there is no greater Proof that his Majesty aims at conquering the whole Country, than that of his Refusal of the Offer which the States make of maintaining his Majesty's Conquests in *Flanders*, and opposing all those who shall attack them, provided that the King remove the War into other Countries distant from them. He being in great Reputation, draws most of the Cities over to his Opinion, finding them all stick to that Point, That the King content himself with his Conquests, and carry his Arms out of *Flanders*, which I continue to refuse. I have not mention'd what you wrote to me of dispensing with the States breaking with *Spain*, provided that they promise to oppose with all their Forces the Assistance which shall come from *Germany*, or elsewhere; because without this Condition we may push the War in the *Netherlands*.

You see how things go at present, and the Disposition of these People, on which you may take your Measures: All that I can do, is to take Advantage of Time
and

and Opportunity in the jarring Contests of these Cities, which frequently happen.

Monfieur de Wit did no forget to tell me, that there is not one Word of Truth in all that you have been inform'd of from *England*; that to contradict what you have been told, That Monfieur *Meerman* declar'd to Monfieur *Ruvigny*, no more was necessary than to let me read the said *Meerman's* Letter, which represents *verbatim* what *Isola* said to him; that the King's Pretensions were insupportable, that he demanded the *Franche Comte*, which the *Switzers* would oppose, and never consent to; that the City of *Luxemburg* was a Post and Entrance into *Germany*, and a neighbouring place to the States Territories; and that to grant what the King ask'd, was as much as to yield the whole *Low-Countries* to him: Thus much on this Article; and the *Sieur de Wit* says, That as to the other Point which he wrote to *Meerman*, that *Charleroy*, the Dutchy of *Luxemburg* and the *Franche Comte*, were too high Pretensions; that these Reports vanish'd of themselves, since he well knew, that the Dutchy of *Luxemburg* was never propos'd otherwise than in case of departing from the *Franche Comte*, and that *Charleroy* was to be ras'd. He express'd himself to be touch'd with the Facility with which things of this Nature were believ'd, tho' very different from his way of acting. He assur'd me, that if it had been in his Power to have brought Affairs to the point, which the King desir'd in his last Project, he had done it, but that the Distrust was too great in the Minds of his Countrymen, that on the Continuance of the War the King would make himself Master of *Flanders*; and that I might have discern'd, by the Acquaintance which I had in the Cities, that they could not be cur'd of this Apprehension, as long as the King should reserve to himself the Liberty of attacking *Flanders*. I still continued firm in refusing to alter any thing in the King's Project, using the Reasons contain'd in his Majesty's and your Dispatches.

I doubt

I doubt not, Sir, but you know better than I, the *Spaniards* want of Money: The Letter which the Prince of *Strasbourg* gave me, written by *Isola*, will confirm it to you; but yet please to assure your self, that the Twenty thousand Crowns were paid at *Amsterdam* by *Mandes Flores* a Banker, and that the Bill came from *Bernardo*, a Banker of *Antwerp*; *Richard*, Consul of the *Spanish* Nation, and related to the Ambassador's Secretary, receiv'd that Sum; to what use it was employ'd, I can't certainly tell you; but I saw, by the Letters of some *Amsterdam* Merchants, that Two hundred thousand Weight of Powder was bought for *Ghent*, and this Money might be destin'd for that.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: December 15, 1667.

AFTER the writing of my first Letter, I saw two Deputies of *Amsterdam*, which are in some measure oblig'd to me, and are not always in the Sentiments of Monsieur *van Beuningen*, who will by no means hear of a Rupture with *Spain*. I have also seen some others of those Cities, which are not favourably inclin'd to us, which I found wavering enough to fall in with the Opinion of those of *North-Holland*, if we could give them any Security that the King would not extend his Conquests farther in the *Netherlands*: It belongs at present to his Majesty to discern which is his greatest Interest, to give over all sort of Negotiations with these People, and take Measures with his other Allies for the Conquest of *Flanders*, or to accommodate himself to the Constitution of a Republick, whose Distrust will cut all short, if his Majesty does not give them Satisfaction, that he will no manner of way push his Conquests farther; for as for the Assurances of it, if the whole Province of *Holland* should agree to break with the King of *Spain*, the Emperor and his Adherents,

in case they attempt any thing on the Places conquer'd by the King, and then the Provinces consent to it, and the Treaty be sign'd on the Points on both Sides, they would be all intire, and not as in the Propositions which have been hitherto made without the Concert of all the Cities; but at present all is publish'd, and none are ignorant of the Conditions which are to be resolv'd on, and this is the time to stir and negotiate in the Cities, in the Provinces, and in the Assembly of the States-General to attain that end. If the King finds his Advantage in this Proposition, there are Cities which are not for us, which may easily be gain'd.

The Deputies of the Provinces also might be manag'd, that what should be resolv'd might pass without difficulty; and if I was capable of advising the King, I would break all Measures with the States, because that they will as well do all they can against his Interests, and will be so confirm'd in their Jealousies of *France* by the Refusal of a Proposition, which they alledge to be all that the King demands, which is to keep what he has, or to have in exchange the Places mention'd in his Proj. ct, to which they will oblige themselves to force the *Spaniards* by a Treaty in the above-mention'd Form; that the People will be all inclin'd to follow the Sentiments of the States against us, with the same Reason that they did against *England*, which is to preserve their Liberty; and that 'tis easie to judge that the King will attack them, after having conquer'd *Flanders*. This is, Sir, what the *Spanish* spread abroad already, on my rejecting this Proposition, and sticking to that of the King.

The Prince of *Strasburg*, who is very clear-sighted, and has conferr'd with Monsieur de *Wis*, van *Beuningen* and several others, is in doubt which to chuse; for on the one Side, he thinks that the States are to be cautiously manag'd, by reason of their Mony and numerous Forces; it being certain, that they can bring into the Field Twenty thousand Foot, and Five thousand Horse; and with that Army, and the Troops of the

Electors,

Electors, 'tis certain the *Spaniards* and Imperialists may be hindered attempting any thing on the King's Conquests in *Flanders*; and on the other, he observes such an Obstinacy in the States to be assur'd that the King shall not push his Conquests farther in *Flanders*, for their own Security, that he is apprehensive that these Contests will break all Measures with the States, if the King does not consent to it. This, Sir, is the true State of Affairs at present, on which I shall expect the King's Commands, in order to execute them punctually. I own that your Letter rid me of a great Uneasiness, which the manner of acting of these People here had given me; and that the Assurance which it gave me, that whatever they should do, the King's Affairs would not go the worse, set my Mind very much at rest.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: December 16, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 8th, which seem'd better to the King than the precedent ones, but 'tis scarce so; both one and the other admirably well represent the Difficulties and Dispositions of a popular State, when 'tis requisite to form an important Resolution, which is to be attended with great Consequences, what part soever they chuse. If in this Constitution of Government the Suffrages were weigh'd, and not number'd, his Majesty would have no Reason for the least uneasiness in the World concerning the Event of this Deliberation; for 'tis impossible that the wisest of the State don't very evidently see that they have no other good, nor any juster Choice on this Occasion, than to remain inseparably united to this Crown, as well because they are already his Majesty's Allies, as by reason that he has been pleas'd (in Consideration of the Interest which they think they have in it) to put the Peace entirely into their Hands, and that the infallible Conclu-

sion of it depends solely on their Resolution to declare boldly to the *Spaniards*, that they themselves have adjusted the Conditions; that they have brought the King to consent to them; and that if *Spain* refuses them, they shall be forc'd to join their Arms to those of his Majesty, or see the Loss of the *Netherlands* with fold-ed Arms, and without endeavouring to make any use of this Opportunity to lessen thus far the Growth of the Power of *France*.

You were very much in the right to declare to the Deputies, that the King would not part with any of the Conditions of his last Project; and to say truth, I don't see in what Particular his Majesty can do it, since he has already been prevail'd on to depart from every thing which the States themselves desir'd him to quit; and you may add to that, That without the Consideration of the said States, the *Spaniards* would not come off so cheap as they may do, if they speedily conclude the Peace.

The King will never, with Pleasure, see any Person declare against Monsieur *de Wit*; but when it happens to be the *Spaniards*, as Don *Estevan de Gamarra* did in the last place, I must not conceal from you, that his Majesty very much rejoices at it, as well because that will amount to a certain Proof that the *Sieur de Wit* acts sincerely for the Interests of this Crown, as because he is very well assur'd, that they will not much hurt him; and that he shall yet have an Opportunity of giving him Proofs of his Friendship and Protection, if he should think he stood in need of it.

The last News from *Madrid*, which is of the 24th of last Month, informs us, That the *English* Ambassador (who has already receiv'd Four thousand Pistoles for the Expence of his Journey) was to go the next day for *Lisbon*, to offer on the part of the Queen of *Spain*, to negotiate the Peace directly from King to King. Either the *Portuguese* will accept the Offer, and that Peace may be said to be then made, and consequently this Obstacle remov'd in the Accommodation of the

Affairs

Affairs of *Flanders*; or the *Portugueze* will reject that Proposition, and the King be so much the more oblig'd (as Monsieur *de Wit* has already acknowledg'd) never to abandon the King of *Portugal*. But if his Majesty should be willing to ask the said *Sieur de Wit*, who is so intelligent, and judges so well of Affairs, to tell him, whether he himself thinks, that after this great publick Step which *Spain* will have made, it can once come into his Mind, that in case by the resolute Declarations of the States, 'twere possible to incline it sincerely towards the Peace, to avoid greater Losses, and to agree to one of the Alternatives which the King has offer'd; whether, I say, after the Conditions are intirely adjusted, with regard to the King, *Spain* would a Moment delay the Accommodation, on account of yielding the Title of King, to the King of *Portugal*, which it has sent in such solemn manner to offer him.

The King has receiv'd a Confirmation, even from *Rome*, (where the Pope's Courier at last return'd, after having been stopp'd almost a Month at *Madrid*) that the *Spaniards* will not treat of Peace any where, but at *Rome*, *Venice*, or the *Pyrenees*. Six intire Months have been allow'd for this Negotiation, reckoning from his Majesty's first Declarations; and tho' three of them are already expir'd, *Spain* has industriously put the Affair out of all State of Accommodation; on account of a Preliminary which is not of any Importance, even to it self; for should the King at present go to *Rome* to treat, and should all the Mediators and interested Potentates consent to send their Deputies thither, which most of them cannot do, on account of their Religion, 'tis easie to discern, that how diligent soever the Princes should be, either in their Nomination of Ministers, or in the Dispatch of them without delay, the Assembly of them would not begin in any of the three places mention'd by *Spain*, before the time which the King, if the Peace is not then made, will be indispensibly necessitated, for the Reasons already express'd, to begin the Hostilities afresh.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: December 22, 1667.

YOU will not, by this Dispatch, receive any very decisive account of the Affair, that is of the Acceptance of the King's Project in the same Form which 'tis couch'd; but yet I am not without hopes that you will be pleas'd with the Condition in which we at present are, and that you will believe it to be a considerable step made towards the coming at the rest. You are then to know, Sir, that after the departure of the last Post, the Commissioners of secret Affairs, of which number is Monsieur de Wit, came twice to me, to sound me whether 'twould not be possible that the King should push his Conquests in other Countries besides *Flanders*; that on that Condition they 'would oblige themselves to break with *Spain*, in case that it refus'd the Propositions offer'd by the King: I answer'd them, that they had nothing to expect from me more than what I had already told them, which is, that nothing was to be retrench'd from the King's Project; that in Consideration of the States, he had relax'd more than he would otherwise ever have done, and also against his own Interests; that after that, I would tell them, from my self, that 'twas time to come to a Resolution, and to chuse and declare whether they would be *Spaniards* or *French*. After which Monsieur de Wit took up the Discourse, and told me, that the States would not take part against the King, but that they were oblig'd to provide for their Safety; to which I reply'd, that 'twas impossible for the King to act more sincerely on his part, he having fix'd the Conditions which the States desir'd, and having put Peace into their Hands; but that I was oblig'd to tell them, not as the King's Ambassador, but a private Friend, that 'twas time to come to a Resolution. You may please to observe that I talk'd to them in this manner, after ha-

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ving secur'd the Cities of *Amsterdam*, *Haerlem*, *Leyden* and *Rotterdam*, to give their Opinion, that Satisfaction must be given to the King; and these Cities join'd to the former of *North-Holland*, which are not alter'd, but remain in the Sentiment that *France* is to be contented, by which I was as it were assur'd that the Deliberation of the Province of *Holland* would be favourable to us, and that the whole Assembly will act in concert with Monsieur de *Wit*, whence I thought that time proper to press them to a Conclusion: In short, Monsieur de *Wit* and the Deputies leaving me, made their Report in the Assembly of the States, and the Consideration of it was defer'd 'till the next Day: Prince *William* of *Furtemberg* arriv'd the same Day, I recounted to him all that had pass'd, and entreated him to see Monsieur de *Wit*, and to tell him, that as for the Proposition, that the King should carry his Conquests into some other Country than *Flanders*, he came from his Majesty, who had said to him, that this Offer so violently shock'd him that he would never consent to it, and that if the States persisted in it, all manner of Negotiation must cease, and Measures be taken elsewhere. The Sieur de *Wit* made this Report to the States of *Holland*, on which that Assembly resolv'd to send its Opinion to the States-General, in order to depu- te it in the Provinces to conform them to it.

This Opinion is, to remain united to *France*; to declare to the *Spanish* Ambassador that he is not to expect any Aid or Assistance from the States; that they desire Peace; that the King's Proposals are thought reasonable, and that if the *Spaniards* refuse them, they will make use of all the most efficacious forcible ways to constrain them; that the Ministers of the Kings and Princes Resident in this Court be spoken to, to bring them to the same Sentiments, to the end that all together may be in a Posture to join to force the *Spaniards* to it. This is what pass'd Yesterday, after which the Province of *Holland* nam'd Monsieur van *Benningen* to go with utmost haste to *France* to the King, and regu-

late and clear with his Majesty the Points to be agreed on after this Declaration; the said Sieur *van Benningen* has been at *Amsterdam*, to entreat the Burgomasters, Regents, and those of the Magistrature, to refuse their consent to this Nomination; but the States were beforehand with him, and told him that the Service of the State requir'd his taking this Journey, and that it could not be dispens'd with; so that he will perform it against his Inclination, but will be better there than here; you will, Sir, have no more to do than encounter his Arguments, which prevail on the People here, and I am certain will not influence you. He is not yet got off from his Opinion that the King must not push his Conquests farther in the *Low-Countries*, but remove them elsewhere, any more than that on the Partition, to which he strongly inclines; not to that made in 1635, but to that projected in 1663. We are not yet in Condition to enter on that Affair, we must come to it by Degrees, and without the Cities perceiving it, as well as the Rupture. Monsieur *de Wit* does not doubt but that we shall compass both with Time and Patience, but in order to attaining those Ends, the Provinces must conform to the Opinion of *Holland*: But knowing that there will be a great deal of difficulty to bring them all to agree on this Point, by reason of the various Interests which keep them ty'd to *Spain*, by the Cabals manag'd in those Provinces, I thought to hint to Monsieur *de Wit*, to take the same course which he did when the War was declar'd against *England*, which was, that when *Holland* had gain'd three Provinces, to publish the States Declaration, and let alone the three others which were of the contrary Opinion; after some time they must conform to the Resolutions of *Holland*, which he approved, and they will act on this Foot to shorten time.

Tho' this which is pass'd, is not all that the King may desire, I hope yet that his Majesty will content himself with it, no more being to be done; but certainly this would lead us to Repose, if the other Provinces

vinces would conform to the Opinion of that of *Holland*, for without that, 'tis equally impossible to begin or conclude a Treaty of any Force or Validity.

You may also please to observe, that if it had been at first desir'd of the Cities that they should break with *Spain*, in case of its Refusal of the Conditions which the King proposes; on the very word of *breaking*, the Reasons of a Rupture would have held the Assembly of the States above three Months in suspense without declaring; but able States-men clearly discern that this Resolution of *Holland* leads them to a Rupture, which will more evidently appear when the Treaty is made.

The Article of *Portugal* is that which most puzzles Monsieur de Wit, for he plainly sees that the King cannot with Reputation and Honour abandon the King of *Portugal*, if he refuses the Conditions which the King of *Spain* offers him; but withal does not see any way of making the People relish the breaking with *Spain*, for the Interest of *Portugal*; for if the King of *Spain* yields all whatever the King demands for his Partition, and yet will not agree with the King of *Portugal*, the Peace is broken; and yet he has solicited it with the States of *Holland* only on the foot that the King should sign the Peace, on procuring for him the Alternative; and to the mention'd Oppositions which they made on the *Portuguese* Affair, he has always told them that Expedients would be found to accommodate it; but that he could wish that the King would leave the King of *Portugal* to agree, to remove this Obstacle, because that after that if the *Spaniards* should refuse the King's Conditions, they would proceed to a Rupture, without being hinder'd by the *Portuguese* Affair; and that for the King's Security, that he may not suffer this Accommodation to be made in such manner that he may receive any Prejudice by it, he thinks that before declaring his Sentiment to his Ministers in *Portugal*, 'twould be necessary to stay 'till the Treaty is sign'd betwixt the King and the States, which would

would be a Security and an Engagement of a Rupture with *Spain*; and this *Portuguese* Peace will perhaps be prejudicial to the King, but their Troops cannot be transported into *Flanders* without being taken, the States intending to keep a Fleet of fifty Sail at Sea, and the King having also his there, will render the Passage of their Forces impossible; and as he cannot see that the King has any thing to fear from such a Peace with *Portugal*, that as for the Assistance which the *Spaniards* may send into *Flanders*, he does not think 'twill be in the Power of the *Spaniards* to do it.

There are but seven Cities in *North-Holland*, all which have from the beginning been of Opinion to continue united to *France*, and have brought over five other Cities to their Sentiment, which has ballanc'd the contrary Opinion for two Months, without any Resolution having been taken, which allow'd us time to gain others.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: December 23, 1667.*

I Receiv'd both your Dispatches of the 15th of this Month, and all that I can say to you on their Contents in few Words is, that 'tis impossible for the King's Interests to go worse than they do in the *United-Provinces*: We may yet alledge that there did not appear one Footstep of this prodigious Jealousie of the Neighbourhood of the King's Arms in 1659, when 'tis notorious that they might have seiz'd all the *Netherlands* in two Campaigns, and these Gentlemen did not say one Word, nor did they make the least Motion in the world to stop their Progress, and that even before they were oblig'd to him for saving their State from the Power of the *English*, and the attack of the Bishop of *Munster*; and on the contrary, when they ought much more to have fear'd the Resentments of
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this Crown on the abandoning of *Munster*; but what is yet much more, his Majesty has put into their Hands the easy and unquestionable Means of speedily and infallibly curing this great Jealousie. In order to this, they would have no more to do than in seeming good earnest, if they should not even effectually resolve on it, to declare to the *Spaniards*, that if they would not sign the Peace on the Conditions propos'd and found to be Just, they would join their Forces to those of the King, to necessitate them to it; but how does it appear that they have stirr'd or us'd the least Endeavour to possess the *Spaniards* with this Apprehension, yet after having on that Promise, not only extorted the King's Secret, but exacted from him very considerable Relaxations of the Conditions of Accommodation, for no other Reason than solely his Majesty's Intention to please them: Is there the least Sincerity, or even the least Decency, in all this way of Proceeding? I remember something almost of the same Nature with this, which happen'd at the Treaty of *Munster*: The King's Plenipotentiaries being reduc'd only to ask of *Pauw* and *de Chaux*, that they would barely make shew for fifteen days as tho' they would not sign that Peace unless *France* was satisfy'd, yet they could never obtain from them that Declaration, tho' they feign'd to act in concert with us, and no Prejudice could have happen'd to them by it: What would the States have lost by sending a Person three Months past to have talk'd resolutely to the *Spaniards*, to have oblig'd them to have accepted the Conditions propos'd by Monsieur *de Wit* himself? perhaps the Peace would have been already made, or very near being concluded; whilst forgetting all that is past, these Gentlemen at present go out of the way to endeavour to oblige the King, pursuant to the fine Conceit which has happen'd into the Thoughts of Monsieur *van Bellingen*, to remove the Fate of Arms from the *Netherlands*. They talk very pleasantly, without troubling themselves whether the King can march an Army over the Mountains, to make

War

War in *Catalonia*, not only without any revolt in that Country, but where the *Spaniards* may oppose against him all the Armies which are employ'd in *Portugal*; nor whether his Majesty could easily blow up all the Territories of the Duke of *Savoy*, to make way for his Troops to come at and attack the Dutchy of *Milan*, defended besides by the Inclemency of the Air, and a very great number of strong Places, and even on the hazard of seeing descend thither Inundations of *Germans*, without any possibility of stopping their Passage; nevertheless his Majesty will cause the Duke of *Savoy* to be sounded, whether he shall be dispos'd to enter on Action with him, and take part of the Advantages of the common Conquests; but he cannot positively engage himself with the States on that Project, unless before he be assur'd of bringing the Duke of *Savoy* to it: Otherwise, provided his Majesty could oblige the *Spaniards* to do him Justice on the Queen's Rights, 'twould be very indifferent to him by what sort of Conquest he did it, and he had rather receive his Satisfaction in *Italy* than in *Flanders*.

The Question would only be, what Security his Majesty might depend on from the indisputable Faith of the States, with regard to the Maintenance and Defence of the Conquests in *Flanders* against every Aggressor whatsoever; that is to say, of such a State which lets him know that a Rupture with *Spain* affects their Commerce to the Sum of sixty Millions, and which perhaps would Sacrifice them, to see those Conquests out of his Majesty's Hands.

By all these Considerations you may comprehend that 'tis very difficult, tho' not impossible, that his Majesty should so very much change as they propose; as also that in this Uncertainty he would not have so much as one Penny expended to gain those Persons which you say are against this Project, and cannot resolve to see their State oblig'd to defend the King's Conquests against all Aggressors.

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But yet I can advise you, that the *Spaniards* have so great a Desire of Peace, and so earnestly wish that the States should have part in this Negotiation, that they have declar'd to the Pope that they will not treat but at *Rome, Venice, or the Pyrenees*; and even for that Reason, that they would have, a Suspension for a Year, and that his Majesty in that *interim* put into the Pope's Hands the Places which he has conquer'd: It belongs then at present to the States to resolve whether they will rather take, and maintain at some Expence, and not without some Danger, the part of such unreasonable People, or that of the King their ancient Friend and Ally, who has put the Accommodation into their Hands on the Conditions which they desir'd.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Pope's
Nuncio on the Rhine: December 23,
1667.*

I Receiv'd the Letter which it pleas'd your Serenity to favour me with on the 8th of this Month, by which you would acquaint the King, thro' my means, that the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* being provided with full Powers to treat of Peace, had declar'd by his Letters to your most Illustrious Serenity, that the Queen his Mistress has agreed on the Imperial City of *Aix la Chapelle* to be the Place to form the Assembly of Ministers, and that he would be ready to be there, when the King will send Plenipotentiaries thither, and Regard had, that the principal of them be of Quality equal to his. I assure your most Illustrious Serenity, that I cannot oblige his Majesty with more agreeable News, who by the Communication owing to the Goodness of our Holy Father the Pope, of certain Answers return'd at *Madrid* to his Holiness, had some room to doubt, that the Crown of *Spain* would not treat of Peace in the Parts on this side,
but

but only in *Italy*, or in the *Pyrenees*; nevertheless concluding on the Faith of a Minister, so authoriz'd as is the mention'd Marquis, that after those Answers given to his Majesty, there must be a Change of Opinion at *Madrid*, where, doubtless, they are sensible of the indispensable Necessity, in order to advance the Peace, to negotiate it in a Neutral Place, the nearest possible to that of the Action of the Arms. His Majesty departing from the Cities of *Colen* and *Liege*, which he nominated to the Abbot of *Rospigliosi*, heartily and with Joy concurs also on his part, to chuse the said City of *Aix la Chapelle*, the place of the Residence of your most Illustrious Serenity, in what time the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* of the contracting Parties, as all the Princes and Potentates Mediators; and he has charg'd me to acquaint him, that as soon as he shall be inform'd by your most Illustrious Serenity in what time the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* concludes to be able to present himself in the mention'd City of *Aix la Chapelle*, he will give such Orders here, that his Plenipotentiaries (the principal of which shall be of equal Quality with the mention'd Marquis) and that of the King of *Portugal*, shall also infallibly present themselves at the same time in the said City of *Aix*, where I passionately desire that your most Illustrious Serenity will speedily procure to his Holiness the Glory of having re-establish'd the Peace of Christendom. In the interim I remain, Sir, your most Illustrious Serenity's most humble, &c.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: December 29, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 23d of this Instant. All the Reasons which I have mention'd to you against following the fine Conceit which Monsieur *van Benningen* has inspir'd here, of removing the King's Arms from *Flanders* to some other Place, are so strong, that

'tis impossible to answer them; and by this you will have seen, Sir, by my last Dispatch, that Affairs proceed in another way.

The States of *Holland* separated on the twenty fourth, to report to their Cities what had been resolv'd on; they return again on the tenth of the next Month, and then we shall know the Sentiments of the Provinces on their Opinion. I don't doubt, but that 'twill be favourable, at least, in part: I entreat you to be perswaded, that I shall omit nothing that I shall judge advantageous to the King's Service; and that if Affairs don't succeed so speedily as his Majesty would desire, 'tis neither my Fault, nor want of Care, but to be ascrib'd to the Constitution of this State, which is, besides, so fill'd with Cabals of various Interests, and susceptible of Jealousies of *France*, that I was forc'd to begin the Negotiation again, when I thought 'twas at an end. This is the Condition in which I have been three times since the Peace of *Breda*; and would to God that had never been made, in which Case I would have boldly answer'd for't, that I would not have been a Month without bringing the States to declare War against *Spain*; but not to talk any more of that, we are only to think of something else to make these People act vigorously for the King's Interests.

'Tis requisite to begin with getting Monsieur *van Beuningen* from hence; when he is in *France*, you will better bring him to Reason, and Monsieur *de Wit* and I will second you; and I doubt not but that, with a little Patience, we shall reduce Affairs to his Majesty's Satisfaction. You will have seen, by my last Dispatch, that I rid the States of all Hopes of obliging us to quit our Arms in the *Netherlands*, in case that the King of *Spain* refuse the Peace, and that I continued firm to the point of your Project, without relaxing any particle of it, which was necessary to bring them so far as they are; for when Monsieur *van Beuningen* is at *Paris*, 'twill be believ'd here, that he will have gain'd a great deal, when the King shall reduce himself to be content that they don't

don't break, on Condition that they, with the Allies of the League on the *Rhine*, oppose the Auxiliaries which shall come into *Flanders* from the Emperor and his Adherents.

You have, in your Dispatch, so well observ'd the great Difficulties which occur in carrying the King's Arms into *Italy*, from the Situation of the fortified Towns and Rivers in the Dutchy of *Milan*, and by the Facility of Relief from *Germany*, that we cannot advise the King to make that Exchange; for on the one side I see that all the *German* Auxiliaries cannot get into *Flanders*, without hazarding an Engagement with the States and the Princes of the *Rhine*, if they observe their Treaty: And on the other, if the King of *Portugal* makes Peace, the *Spaniards* cannot land their Troops at *Ostend*, without their being destroy'd, the States being to have a Fleet of Fifty Sail of large Ships in the Channel to hinder them, when we shall be agreed; so that *Flanders* will be lost, or the *Spaniards* constrain'd to make Peace on the Conditions propos'd by the King.

Prince *William* of *Furstemburg* has had several Conferences with the *Sieur de Wit*, and we din'd yesterday together with four of the principal Deputies of the States. When he arriv'd they would not confer with him, because whilst he was at *Cleve* Monsieur *Beverning* suspected that he was not well inclin'd to the States; but having assur'd Monsieur *de Wit* and my Friends of the contrary, they were convinc'd; and I believe that the Prince of *Furstemburg* will be satisfied with Monsieur *de Wit*'s Conduct, with regard to him, as that Minister is with his Conference with his Highness, I gave him an account of all that has pass'd since the Peace of *Breda*, that he may inform you of all at his Return to the Court, it being impossible for Dispatches to express all that happen'd, so particularly as it may be done by Word of Mouth, and on the Spot. He leaves this Country with the Approbation of Monsieur *de Wit*, and not to importune you with Repetitions, I refer to the exact Relation which he will give you of
all

all that pass'd betwixt us and Monsieur *de Wit* on the Subject which we are at present treating of; several Thoughts have occur'd to us on that Head, with which he will entertain you when he comes to you.

I most humbly supplicate you, Sir, to assist Monsieur *du Plessis* with your Interest, to obtain a Commission of Captain of Horse in those which the King is raising: He was wounded, and hazarded his Life, together with my Son, now at *London*, when the People took the Side of *Vatrenille*; he afterwards serv'd Volunteer at *Gigery*, and this Campaign has had several Employments which he has discharg'd very well. Knowing him very brave, and capable of serving the King, I shall be infinitely oblig'd to you, Sir, for the Assistance you shall please to give him to his Majesty. I could heartily wish that he should be in my Son's Regiment.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: December 29, 1667.

SINCE the writing of my first Letter, Monsieur *de Wit* came to see me, and shew'd me one from the States Resident at *Lisbon*, dated the fifteenth of this Month, which came by a *Rotterdam* Ship, which brings the News that the King of *Portugal* is disposs'd of that Kingdom by the Prince his Brother, declar'd incapable of governing, and imprison'd; that the Queen is retir'd into a Convent, and that 'tis not possible for the Court of *Lisbon* to be in a greater Confusion than it is at present. After which, Monsieur *de Wit* and I came to discourse on the Means of concluding a Treaty with the King on the Affair in dispute; all Points of which we examin'd, in order to draw thence all possible Lights to inform his Majesty; on which I thought myself oblig'd to engage Monsieur *de Wit* to go to Prince *William* of *Furtemberg*, who was in Bed, by reason of a Distraction on his Foot, which yet did not hinder our going to discourse.

scourse with him on that Subject, and also committing to Writing what we said; but yet without obliging the King to any thing, if he should disapprove certain Propositions. Prince *William* having taken the Pen in Hand, charg'd himself with the causing to be cypher'd by his Secretary what pass'd betwixt Monsieur *de Wit* and us, and to send it to you; on which please to let me know the King's Sentiments. I shall only tell you, that on the Term of the End of *May*, I said to Monsieur *de Wit*, that I was assur'd that the King would not at all relax any thing, nor allow longer than to the End of *March*, it not being in the Power of any thing to press the *Spaniards* more to make Peace, than removing their Hopes of a longer time.

Besides the Declaration which has been made to the *Spanish* Ambassador by one of the Deputies of Secret Affairs, that the States thought the Conditions which the King propos'd, very moderate and reasonable; and that if the King his Master refus'd them, they would by Force oblige him to accept them: That Ambassador was this Morning with Monsieur *de Wit* to complain to him of it; he told him that it was time to speak plain, and that he did not only confirm all that was said, but added, That his Masters would not be long in declaring, that they would constrain them, if they did not with utmost Haste accept the Peace; and that they would not suffer a Fire to break out near them, which might have been quench'd, with also preserving to them a Country which their Negligence has suffer'd to be lost. On which the Ambassador went away very ill-satisfied, and inveighing against the States and Monsieur *de Wit*. This Morning I have been assur'd of two Provinces which will follow the Opinion of *Holland*. Monsieur *van Beuningen* is very much come over since yesterday, and I find him more dispos'd to accommodate himself to the King's Desires.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: December 30, 1667.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the twenty second of this Instant. You not having yet been able to give the King a full decisive Answer on the grand Affair, I cannot yet say any more to you, than that his Majesty is very well pleas'd to hear that his Affairs are in a better way than they were before; and that his Majesty impatiently expects your following Dispatches, which must give him a clearer Insight, and a greater Certainty.

I send you a Paper which the King gave order to the Duke de Chaulnes to present to the Pope, in answer to another which has been deliver'd to his Holiness by the Spanish Ambassador, on the Subject of the Peace. I entreat you to communicate it to the Prince of Furstemburg, and shew it also to Messieurs de Wit, van Benningen, and the Commissioners of Secret Affairs, and to cause two Copies to be taken of it, to send to Monsieur de Pomponne, and Monsieur de Terlan, to whom I have written, that I pray'd you to do it.

I know that the Spaniards at present endeavour to persuade the King of England, That 'twas only owing to their Consideration for him, that they would not proceed farther in the Negotiation of putting their Places into the Hands of the *Hollanders*, tho' they very much wanted Money; and that they also pretend to give that King great Jealousies, on the Honour which the States will procure to themselves in prejudice of his, by rendring themselves the Arbitrators betwixt France and Spain. The English Ambassador was not gone from Madrid for Lisbon, on the tenth of this Month. The Gallies don't arrive, nor does Don John go.

The Queen's great Belly continues, God bethank'd, very successfully.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: January 5, 1668.

I Receiv'd the Dispatch which you did me the Honour to write on the 30th of the last Month. The Day which Prince *William* of *Furstemburg* parted from the *Hague*, he sent by his Secretary, to Monsieur *de Wit* and me, a Copy of the Relation which he sent you of our Conversation with the mention'd *Sieur de Wit*, who came to me this Evening to tell me, that he found two Things to object against in his Relation; the one, That it set the Project betwixt the King and the States, which ought not to have been, it not being authoriz'd by his Masters; and that 'twas first necessary to engage them to agree to those Propositions: And the other, That 'twas said in the said Relation, That the King should have the Liberty to attack the Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, of which he never thought, nor did he ever consent to it, that being directly contrary to the Peace and Security which the States pretend to by this Accommodation.

I answer'd him, That I was to tell him, that I persisted in what I had declar'd to him, that the King would not consent to any longer Delay than the End of *March*; and as to the acting of his Majesty's Arms, I was assur'd, that his Intention and Interests would encline him to act vigorously on the Enemies places, if the *Spaniards* did not, between this and the End of *March*, accept the moderate Conditions to which the King had reduc'd his Demands, in Consideration of the States. From this Discourse we fell into that of the Prejudices which the King would receive, by removing his Arms from *Flanders* to another place. I then alledg'd to him all that is contain'd in your former Dispatches, on the Difficulties of marching Armies into *Italy* and *Catalonia*; that it might happen, that after your Armies should be remov'd, the States might not act

act so vigorously to force the *Spaniards* to a Peace, and yet would have what they desir'd, in making the King lose a Campaign, hoping that in time they should have more favourable Opportunities of redressing their Affairs: To which he answer'd me, That he apprehended these Reasons to be good, but that in regarding the King's Security, 'twas also necessary to look after that of the States, who could not cure their Jealousies of his Majesty's great Power, but by being secur'd, that he should not be Master of *Flanders*, and without removing his Army, as has been said, into *Italy*, *Catalonia*, *Spain*, that it should subsist in the Enemy's Country, and at his Expence, but yet without attacking of Towns; and that if his Majesty saw that the States did not perform with their Forces what they should be oblig'd to by the Treaty, to constrain the *Spaniards* to Peace, that then he should be free to fall on the places, and his Army would be ready to execute his Designs; that thus his Majesty would not receive any Prejudice by the Complaisance which the States desir'd of him to accommodate himself to their Fear, that it should not conquer *Flanders*.

That as for the Term of *May*, 'twas only ask'd, that the Armies might the better act, Experience having shewn the late Prince of *Orange*, that 'twas impossible for Armies to act sooner than the End of *May*, and particularly on the Side of *Holland*; that if they are oblig'd to a Rupture, their Forces cannot take the Field sooner than the End of *May*.

Nothing could be propos'd this Week on the Opinion of *Holland*, to the States General, because the President of the Week is Monsieur *Renswoude*, Father to the States Ambassador at *Madrid*, who is wholly gain'd by the *Spaniards*, and would have ruin'd all our Affairs; next Week we shall have a favourable President, who will act better than *Renswoude*.

The States of *Holland* will return the tenth of this Month. I don't doubt but they will remain firm in their Opinion.

In the Journey which the Count *de Waldeck* has taken thither, he has left nothing unattempted to raise Jealousies against *France*. He affected to dine with the Magistrates of the Cities thro' which he pass'd, and warm'd them against us as much as he could; I doubt not but he will do the same with the Dukes of *Brunswick*, where he is at present. I thought fit to advise Monsieur *de Gourville* of it, to the end that he may advertise the Dukes of *Zell* and *Osnaburg* of the Conduct of this Person, and give them to understand, that they cannot take a more secure Side than that of the King; that they have seen all the Advantages which the House of *Hesse* receiv'd during the War, which was in great Consideration by the Alliance which it had with the King; and knowing that the mention'd *Gourville* is very well in the Favour of those two Princes, and being assur'd that nothing can ever remove the Passion and Fidelity which he has for the King's Service, I wrote to him, that he ought by all manner of ways to raise a Suspicion in these Princes of Count *Waldeck*, who is a very selfish Man, and aims at nothing but his own Interests, even at the Expence of those of his Masters. But if you think it proper for the mention'd *Sieur de Gourville* to have any Orders from the King imparted to him on this Subject, I will send an Express to him, there being Posts settled betwixt the *Hague* and *Zell*, when you shall let me know your Intention. All that I can assure you of, is, That the *Sieur de Gourville* will serve the King faithfully and diligently; for he has the Confidence and Esteem of these Princes. No time is to be lost in endeavouring to ruin Count *Waldeck*, for he takes Measures against us on all Sides.

From

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: January 6, 1668.

YOU have no reason to regret the Conclusion of the Peace of *Breda*, because you cou'd, in case of the continuation of the other War, have brought the States to break with *Spain*; for by that we shou'd have had *England* united to the *Spaniards* to Perpetuity, which wou'd not turn to the King's Account.

Prince *William* sent me a sort of Project of a Treaty betwixt the King and the States, which he and Monsieur *de Wit* were suppos'd to have drawn up; but before I can say any thing to you of it, 'tis absolutely necessary to wait the Arrival of that Prince, or Monsieur *van Beuningen*; for without any Disguise or Design, either thro' some fault in the Cypher, or otherwise, I plainly own to you, that there are two or three of the principal Articles, the Sence of which, and the Intention of those who drew up that Piece, we cou'd not comprehend here, what Application soever has been us'd in general: Only I can tell you, that the King will not grant to the *Spaniards* 'till the end of *May* to resolve; and that also besides the Prejudice which his Majesty wou'd receive by it, 'twou'd be injurious to the Peace.

I read to the King the Article of your Letter which concerns Monsieur *du Plessis*; but both you and he apply'd too late, his Majesty having already given out all the Commissions of Horse, and resolving not to augment them.

The Marquis *de Louvois* has receiv'd Order to expedite the Remittance for the Reimbursement of your Expences on the Soldiers which you subsisted in their return to *France*.

I cannot end without telling you that Prince *William* has written Wonders to the King, not only of the Ability, but the Sincerity and good Intentions of

Monſieur *de Wit*, as to what regards the Maintenance of the Union of their State with his Maſteſty.

I am ſure you will not be uneaſy to hear, that the King yeſterday beſtow'd on me ſuch an extraordinary Favour, that I cou'd ſcarce believe it after having obtain'd it, that his Maſteſty's Bounty cou'd extend to ſuch an exceſs: It conſiſts in his being pleas'd that my Son, who is yet but in his Twenty ſecond Year, ſhou'd ſign as Secretary in his Poſt, and that I might for the future diſcharge entirely on him the whole Care of the Marine Affairs, the Gallies and Ships, and the Provinces of my Division, to enable me to give my ſelf entirely, and with more Application, to Foreign Affairs.

Memorial of the Count D'Eſtrades, preſented to the States-General of the United Provinces: January 9, 1668.

THE Count *D'Eſtrades*, Ambaſſador-Extraordinary of *France*, prays your Lordſhips to pleaſe to appoint him Commiſſaries, to communicate to them ſome important Diſpatches which he has receiv'd from the King, his Maſter. His Maſteſty has given him order to make Inſtances to your Lordſhips, that 'twou'd pleaſe them to ſend theirs alſo to *Zealand*, that without delay his Maſteſty's Tin may be reſtor'd, which is detain'd by the Admiralty of that Province, notwithstanding that the King has releas'd the Ships and Effects which were Arreſted in *France*, belonging to the Captain which made the Capture of the Tin; and the laſt Reſolution which was taken in *Zealand* on this Affair, referring to what your Lordſhips ſhou'd Order, the ſaid Ambaſſador-Extraordinary does not doubt but that your Lordſhips will be inclin'd, by their Juſtice and ordinary Equity,

' Equity, to give the King at last this Satisfaction, which has been so many times demanded, and which his Majesty has so long expected. Deliver'd at the Hague, ⁵January 9, 1668.

D'ESTRADES.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: January 13, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 5th of this Month. The King is inform'd at the same time, by Letters from *Holland*, of the particular Sentiment of the Province of *Utrecht*, on the Subject of the Accommodation betwixt *France* and *Spain*, to which 'tis said that Province persists with great Obstinacy. It seems to me superfluous to tell you, that in the terms which the Opinion of *Utrecht* is express'd, his Majesty can never agree to it.

As for the two Particulars which Monsieur *de Wit* told you he found reason to object against; in the Memorial drawn up by Prince *William* from their last Conversation: His Majesty, with regard to the first, well knows, that it is not yet possible to say what is the Sentiment of the States, but only of Monsieur *de Wit*, who thought he cou'd bring them to it: And on the second, his Majesty shou'd not think that he stood in need of the Consent of any Person to attack *Luxemburg*; but if it shou'd in some measure be necessary to the adjusting of all the Measures, he does not see that the States cou'd have any imaginable Interest in the Attack of the said Dutchy, which, I own, perhaps may somewhat affect the Princes of the Empire, its nearer Neighbours, who consenting, the States cannot make any Difficulty of acquiescing to it; and so much the rather, that they will have before consented, that the said Dutchy may, or ought to be yielded

yielded to this Crown, by the Conditions of the Accommodation.

The King was very glad to hear that Monsieur de *Wit* agreed with you on the Force of the Reasons which his Majesty has not to remove the greatest Effort of his Arms from *Flanders* to any other Place; what he adds, on the means of finding also Security to the States, that they may have no room to fear the King's making himself absolute Master of the *Netherlands*, that will be a Subject to be treated here with Monsieur *van Benningen*. But the best of these means seems to us to be that of the States vigorously pressing the *Spaniards* to accept, at the end of *March*, one of the two offer'd Alternatives. I have already written my self some Letters to the *Sieur de Gourville*, and I also answer by this Days Post one of his; you may believe that from the beginning of this Commerce, I have not forgotten the Person and the good Dispositions for this Crown of Count *Waldeck*, no more than the Motives of Interest which set him on Work, with so much Ardour and Application, against his Majesty.

I send you the Passport which Monsieur *van Benningen* desir'd, with the Clause that he is allow'd a Guard of fifty Horse at the Places which he shall pass. If he talks resolutely to Monsieur de *Castel Rodrigo*, as I don't doubt, he will much advance the Conclusion of the Peace.

I don't know how 'twill be approv'd by the States, that their Ambassadors in *England* have consented to the Proposition made to them by the *Spanish* Ministers, and the Commissioners of the King of *England*; 'tis a Declaration somewhat shocking which the said Ambassadors design'd to make, and which I hope they will not compass, for we have here Antidotes or Correctives for all the Poisons prepar'd by Monsieur de *Isola*.

The King knows, beyond a possibility of doubting, that there are Ministers of the House of *Austria*, which serve it in Foreign Employments, which are strongly per-

perswaded, and have written conform to it to *Madrid*, that 'tis a particular Happiness to them, that *France* would willingly make Peace on any Condition whatsoever; and advise, namely the Queen their Mistress, not to lose the Opportunity of accepting one of the two Alternatives. So that the Affair standing on these Terms, even in the Judgment of our Enemies, 'tis easie to see that if the *Hollanders* will speak to them resolutely in such Words as put it out of doubt of the Conjunction of their Forces with those of the King, in case of their Refusal, the Peace may be very easily concluded betwixt this and the End of *March*.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne; January 12, 1668.

I Receiv'd the Dispatch which you did me the Honour to write me on the 6th of the currant Month. Prince *William of Furstemburg* has judg'd very right concerning the great Ability of Monsieur de *Wit*, and of the Address which he is Master of, to lead so many different Inclinations, which occasion great Delays in their Resolutions. I am perswaded that the said *de Wit* is very well intention'd towards *France*; but there are Conjectures which cramp all his diligent Endeavours to finish our Affairs. The last Week he was oblig'd to remain idle, Monsieur de *Renswoude*, Deputy to the States-General from the Province of *Utrecht*, being President. This *Renswoude* engag'd the Province of *Utrecht* to give its Opinion, that the King ought to be supplicated to grant a Suspension of Arms for a Year, and chose Arbitrators to determine whether his Majesty's Entry into *Flanders* was just. This Opinion, tho' ridiculous, was yet follow'd by the Province of *Friesland*; *Groningen* and *Zealand* have not yet declar'd.

Some Cities of *Holland* being shock'd, since *Temple*, the King of *England's* Resident, came to Monsieur de
Wit

Wit from *Castel Rodrigo*, who told him that all the Towns would surrender to the King, if they did not relieve them; and that 'twas as good to lose *Flanders*, all at one Stroke, as to see it consum'd by a lingering Fire; and then propos'd to him a League with *England* and *Sweden*, of which the said *Castel Rodrigo* was secure; and that all together should force the King to make Peace, keeping all his Ports block'd up, and stopping all manner of *French* Trade. Monsieur *de Wit* answer'd him, That his Masters would not approve this Expedient, that 'twas better for the *Spaniards* to make Peace on the Conditions which the King proposes, to which the States would contribute to the utmost of their Power. *Temple* went into *England*, and dispatch'd to *Castel Rodrigo* an Express to acquaint him with this Answer, which must not at all have pleas'd him: In the meantime Monsieur *de Wit* and I saw all the Deputies of the Cities, and have re-establish'd those which waver'd, who are confirm'd in their former Opinion, of constraining the *Spaniards* to accept the Conditions which the King propos'd, in case they refuse the Peace; and that they should charge Monsieur *van Benningen* to entreat the King to have the Complaisance for the State, not to attack *Flanders*, without having concerted Measures in which both may find their Security. The Provinces of *Overysfel* and *Gelderland* are conform'd to the Opinion of *Holland*. I must tell you, Sir, that the Jealousies which renew, and the Papers sent from several places thro' the Provinces, that the King designs only to amuse them with the Hopes of a Peace, and crush them at once by the Entrance of two Armies into *Flanders*, and then fall on them; tho' this seems ridiculous, and has been so frequently ruin'd by good and strong Reasons, it yet has its Effect in some Provinces; that of *Holland* sticks to its first Opinion, and I thought it proper to confirm them in it, to give the Deputies what is noted in the State which I send you.

I communicated to the Commissioners of secret Affairs the Letters and Memorials which you sent me.

They

They approv'd the Considerations on the *Spaniards* Answer to the Pope, to be very well done; and Monsieur *de Wit* told me, that he never saw any Pieces more argumentative, and more forcible: They were very glad to learn from the Nuncio's last Letter, that the King agreed to *Aix la Chapelle*, which shews, that the King desires Peace more than the *Spaniards* would perswade the World; I sent Duplicates of all the new ones to Monsieur *de Pomponne* and *Terton*, as you order'd me.

I doubt not but Monsieur *de Ruigni* truly informs you of the Intentions of the King of *England*; but I can assure you, as knowing it beyond possibility of doubting, that he uses all the most diligent and secret Endeavours possible, to engage the States to a League with him for the Defence of the *Netherlands*; and that this is at present the greatest Effort which Monsieur *de Wit* has to bear, there being whole Provinces which are inclin'd to it.

I receiv'd, Sir, with a Joy which I cannot express to you, the News of the Favour which the King has bestow'd on Monsieur *de Berny*, and the Justice which he has rendred to your great Services. Really 'tis not possible to hear in what manner the King surprises his Servants with Benefactions of so high a Price, without Admiration: These Examples give great Hopes to those which are in the Service, and I own, that I place myself in that Number, and entreat you, Sir, on the Occasions of any vacant Benefices, not to neglect to remember his Majesty that I have three Sons of the Church, and no Estate to give them; since he has provided the Abby of *Saint Vincent*, 'tis to be hop'd from his Goodness, that his Majesty will grant me some other for my Family, when it shall fall vacant. Monsieur *de Zaltichem* assures me, that you shall suddenly have Satisfaction on the Affair of the Bishop of *Orange*, and that things shall be restor'd to the State in which they were. I am frequently chagrin'd at the Sight of the Delays of these People here in Business, but when I consider, that by pressing them, one should make them take Resolutions

lutions, from which they could never recede, when once they are registred, I find my Account much better in patiently bearing with, and endeavouring by negotiating to bring back their Inclinations; 'twill be your Task, Sir, to cure them, by Monsieur van Beuningen, of the Fear in which they are, that if the *Spaniards* refuse the Peace, and *Flanders* is attack'd by the King's Forces, it is absolutely lost without Remedy; and this is what they by no means desire. I tell them, that Monsieur van Beuningen being at the Court, will find the King sincerely intends the Peace, and his Partition in Form, as he demands it; and that 'tis to desire Peace more expeditiously than them, to attack *Flanders* vigorously, in case of Refusal, to reduce them to accept the King's just Conditions; that to attain them, they ought not to expect the King should grant a longer time than the End of *March*, nor that his Arms should remove their Action from *Flanders*. This does not content them, there is a sort of Temperament to be added to this; 'tis better that it be done after you shall have talk'd with Prince William of *Furstenburg* and Monsieur van Beuningen, for I see clearly here, that they will give his Majesty all the Securities which he can desire, for the Action of the States Forces, in case of a Rupture with *Spain*, and never to make Peace till the *Spaniards* have given the King the Alternative.

Friesland is utterly averse to us, the Princess of *Nassau* acts against us; two Years past she did Wonders against the *English*, and brought over *Friesland*, *Groningen* and *Overyssel* to the King's Side, but that was in Hopes that she should have been paid 10000 Livres due to her ever since the time of the deceas'd *Henry IV.* which the Duke of *Brunswick* lent him, which Debt was acknowledg'd by the late King by several Letters from time to time reiterated, which she keeps; but having told her two years since, that the Answer which I receiv'd concerning that Affair, was, That the Posture of the King's Affairs did not permit him to pay the Debts of the Kings his Predecessors, but only punctually

Actually to discharge his own, she has chang'd Sides, and at present favours the *Spaniards* in every thing that she can; she being the Governess of those two Provinces, and back'd with great Interest, gives us uneasiness. You see, Sir, to how many Incidents one is subject in a Republick, and how many Oppositions one meets with, before an Affair is brought to a Conclusion.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: January 19, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the thirteenth Instant, with the Pass for Monsieur *van Benningen*. You will not, Sir, by this receive what is very agreeable; the Division of the Provinces retards Monsieur *van Benningen's* Instructions: He cannot go for *France* before 'tis sign'd by all the Provinces, pursuant to their Treaty of Union; those of *Utrecht*, *Friesland* and *Groninguen*, will have him barely charg'd with representing to the King, That Justice and Equity require that the Differences betwixt *France* and *Spain* be referr'd to an Arbitration; that there be a Suspension of Arms for a Year, and that the States be barely Mediators in this Affair: *Zealand*, *Overysfel* and *Gelderland* don't say one Word, nor can we answer for them, that they will be either for or against the Opinion of *Holland*, which continues firm to its first Sentiment, of which I have already given you an Account by my precedent Dispatches.

The Provinces of *Friesland*, *Groninguen* and *Utrecht* have not left unpractis'd any Method of soliciting or caballing, to debauch the Cities of *Holland*, and get them over to their Party, which is absolutely for that of *Spain*; but the diligent Endeavours of Messieurs *de Wit* and *van Benningen* have kept them firm; and the other Provinces not having been able to gain any Ground upon them, I hope that, with a little Patience, we shall bring

bring them over from the ill Sentiments which they have conceiv'd. All the Storm is fallen on the Prince of *Tarento*, who being propos'd for General of the Cavalry, the Provinces consented, if *Holland* would have conform'd to their Opinion; but finding themselves refus'd, would not admit the said Prince to that Post; and *Holland* was oblig'd to agree on that Article with the other Provinces, that two Lieutenant-Generals of Horse should be created, of which the *Rbyngrave* should be the first, and the Prince of *Tarento* the second, and that they should not yet fill the Charge of General of the Horse, which the Provinces requir'd for the Prince of *Orange*. The Prince of *Tarento* has always acted in the Province of *Holland* with Zeal and Affection for the King's Interest and Service, as he does at present at the *Hague*, to which place he came during the Assembly of the States.

The mention'd Provinces are also agreed to the Charge of Field-Marshal for Monsieur *de Wit*, and have created a Lieutenant-General under him, a General of the Artillery, and two Serjeants of Battel. They are deliberating on the raising of a Thousand Dragoons, and Six new Regiments; the Commission for the levying of which in *Germany*, Monsieur *de Wit* is to have, and to fill the Charge with veteran experienc'd Officers.

I have complain'd to Monsieur *de Wit*, that the *Dutch* Ambassadors in *England* have consented to a Proposition made to them by the *Spanish* Ministers, to meet in the regulated Conferences with them and the King of *England's* Commissioners, which turn'd on a very offensive Declaration, which the Ambassadors design'd to make, and which I would hope they would not compass.

The *Sieur de Wit* answer'd me, That I should be clearly inform'd of the whole by the *Sieur de Meerman*, and the *Sieur Temple*, who yesterday return'd from *England*. The mention'd *Sieur Meerman's* Dispatch contain'd, That in the Conferences which they had with the King of *England's* Commissioners, they very
much

much advanc'd their Treaty of Commerce; and that they then told them, That the States thought the Alternative which the King offer'd, in order to the Peace, favourable; that their Masters entreated the King of *England*, that he would please to make use of his good Offices to induce the *Spaniards* to it, and also join his Forces with theirs, to constrain them to it. On which the Commissioners deputed by the King of *England*, told them, That this Proposal was unjust, and that the King their Master would never consent to it; that he, the *Sieur Meerman*, told them, That the States would then alone do it, if the *Spaniards* refus'd the Peace; and thus separated themselves: That then the said *English* Commissioners, in another Conference, told them, That they had acquainted the King with their last Discourse, and also the *Spanish* Ministers, which were surpriz'd at the Recital which they made them; and that then *Molina* and *Elisola* desir'd a Conference with them, in presence of the *English* Commissioners, which they agreed to, and it was held the next Day; in which the *Spanish* Ministers offer'd several Reasons to prove, that the States, in Conjunction with *England*, ought to assist them against the King's Invasion of *Flanders*, contrary to a Treaty sworn on the most Serene Gospels; that they added several other Particulars on this Subject, which set off their Discourse; that they only said, that they would answer Word by Word what they had said to the *English* Commissioners, with which they were very ill satisfied. This is the Substance of what I read in Monsieur *Meerman*'s Dispatch.

The *Sieur de Wit* farther told me, That the mention'd *Meerman* is not without Hopes that the King of *England* may be perswaded to give into the same Sentiment in which they are entred for the sake of Peace, and *Temple* has sufficiently explain'd himself to some of the Deputies who are my Friends, and who have told it me. I thought it my Duty to tell Monsieur *de Wit*, that it would be proper for him to write to *England* to Monsieur *Meerman*, to end these sort of Conferences

with the *Spanish* Ministers; that one of them was sufficient to express the Intentions of their Masters; and that I thought that they also ought to impart the whole to Monsieur *Ruvigny*, with whom they did not correspond with that open-hearted Confidence, which they are oblig'd to do with the Ministers of the King, who on so many Occasions has given them Marks of his Friendship and Protection. He promis'd me to write to morrow earnestly on these two Points, and that he before-hand assur'd me, that the King would be content with their Proceedings, and that they would give an Account of all to Monsieur *Ruvigny*. I shall also write to him this Post to advise him of it, and pray him to write me whether those Ambassadors do as Monsieur *de Wit* has promis'd.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: January 20, 1668.*

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 12th. I have nothing to say to you on the ridiculous Opinion of the Province of *Utrecht*, which has been follow'd by that of *Friesland*; but you may assure Monsieur *de Wit*, from most certain Informations which the King has receiv'd, that when Sir *William Temple* ventur'd to say at the *Hague*, that the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* is secure of *England* and *Sweden*, if the *United Provinces* would enter into a League, that he advanc'd what was very false, with regard to both of them; yet 'twas impossible for the *Sieur de Wit* to answer the mention'd *Temple* with more Prudence than he did, with which besides his Majesty is very much oblig'd. 'Twas only to be desir'd that the State would not approve the scandalous Step, with regard to this Crown, which the Ambassador *Meerman* made at *London*, when he consented to meet the *English* Commissioners, in Conjunction with, and in the presence of the Ministers of the House of *Austria*;

stria; for tho' his Majesty well knows that the mention'd *Meerman* has hitherto contain'd himself so far as to speak of nothing but the means of inclining the *Spaniards* to the Peace, by the false Hopes which the *Spaniards* conceive of perswading *England* and *Holland* to a League against *France*.

We agree with you here on the Truth of what you write, that at *London* there are secret Endeavours to engage the States to a League for the Defence of the *Low-Countries*; and if there should be none but only who lov'd the *Spaniards*, he will never fail trumping up such Propositions; but the King knows, beyond possibility of a Doubt, that whatever the *English* will say on this Occasion, results only from their Jealousie and Fear, that the States should enter into stricter Alliances with his Majesty, and perhaps to engage them to Measures which may intirely disoblige *France*; and I may add, that if the Negotiations of this League should advance at *London* in such manner as to render the King apprehensive of the Conclusion of it, he has in readines some sure Methods to stop it, almost at once, and at the same time do the *English* the greatest Pleasure in the World. I cannot explain my self farther, but Monsieur *de Wit* has too much Penetration not easily to know and judge, that what I say is true.

I continue still to say, and shall always persist in it, that the Infallibility of Peace, and that very suddenly, consists in no more than talking resolutely to the *Spaniards*, and making appear to them their certain Loss, if they refuse one of the Alternatives; and so much the rather, as I have already written you, because most of the *Spanish* Ministers abroad advise those at *Madrid* to accept one of them; and themselves affirm, that their Monarchy has no other way besides this only of saving the *Netherlands*.

ADDITION.

The King has caus'd to be ras'd out of the Registers of the Parliament, all that was done against his Authority,

city, from the year 1647, to the end of the year 1652. That Assembly has, doubtless, felt the Blow, but the Pain of it ought to be only that of not having taken the same Resolution long since, which it ought to have done, it being no more than an Effect of its Obedience.

*Memorial presented by the Count D'Estrades
to the States-General of the United-
Provinces of the Netherlands: Janua-
ry 23, 1668.*

THE Count D'Estrades, Ambassador Extraordi-
nary of France, has Orders from the King his
Master to remonstrate to your Lordships, that at the
End of the Year 1666 he presented several Memo-
rials to desire that they would permit the Ship named
the *Europe*, belonging to the *West-India* Company of
France, to go out of their Ports, in order to go with
their Cargo to the Coasts of *Guiney*, which they
granted, with Order to the College of the Admiralty
of *Amsterdam*, not to give that Ship any Interruption
in her going out; that in Prejudice to this Permission,
the said Ship returning from this Voyage to *Amster-
dam*, was seiz'd with her Merchandises, by the *West-
India* Company of this State, under Pretext, that the
said Vessel belong'd (as they pretend) to private Per-
sons, and that it was negotiated in the Places subject
to your Lordships; which Seizure having been exa-
mined and debated before the Gentlemen of the Court
of *Holland*, and the Great Council, the Cause appear'd
of such a Nature, that the Company of this State was
excluded from its Demands, and the Seizure order'd
to be taken off, by those two Courts of Justice, after
three Months Proceedings, without its having any
Damages and Costs adjudg'd, as ought to have been,
by

by reason of undue and visible Vexation. Next to this, pursuant to the Order for taking off the Seizure, the Merchandises when unladen, and put into a Lighter, were afresh seiz'd by the same Company, they maintaining, that by the 11th and 12th. Articles of a *Placart* of your Lordships in the Year 1648, is express'd, That all Ships going within the Limits of the *Ostroy* of the Company of this Country, which are wholly the same as those of that of *France*, from Cape *Vert* to that of *Good Hope*, are to pay the Right of Convoy due to the Admiralty, as a Right of State; to which Admiralty the said Right or Custom was paid, pursuant to the Acquittances of the 4th of *October* 1666, when the Ship went out, without any thing being laid against it by the said Company; and from which Admiralty the Passports of Entry were taken at the Return from the said Voyage, and dated the 5th of *September*, and 23d of *December* 1667, which cannot be drawn into any ill Consequence, nor Prejudice to the King's Power in the Charter which he granted the said Company of *France*, the said Right of Convoy being a Right of the State, and which is consequently paid from Sovereign to Sovereign, it would be indifferent whether 'twere paid to the Admiralty or to the Company, if it belong'd to it, without a pretended Right of Acknowledgment demanded by the Company of this State, on account of the pretended Trading within the Limits of their *Ostroy*, which (as is above-said) are the same with those of the Company of *France*, which never at all traded in the Countries subject to the Company of this Country, but in the Free *French*, *English* or *Danish* Places; all which have the same Limits with the Company of this Country; which has been already debated and decided by the said Sentences and Discharges, and the Order for taking off the Seizure of your Lordships Courts of Justice. But these frivolous Pretences being so many Vexations, which probably the said Company undertakes for no other Reason than the Hopes that it shall

be acquitted at a small Expence, without any Costs
 and Damages; and this ill Treatment is besides direct-
 ly contrary to the Intention of the Marine Treaties of
 1662, made betwixt his Majesty and your Lord-
 ships; You will easily judge, that the Occidental
 Company of this State has no Reason (as has been
 already determin'd) to cause that of *France*, which is as
 well privileg'd as they, within the same Limits above-
 mention'd, to be consider'd as private Men, with re-
 gard to which, the Articles of the said *Placart* were
 drawn up; and thus give Laws to Sovereigns, by ma-
 king them pay Rights of Acknowledgment which are
 not due; for which Reason the said Ambassador Ex-
 traordinary prays your Lordships to cause the Compa-
 ny of this State to desist from the Continuation of
 these insupportable litigious Wranglings, to give an
 Explication of the said Articles of the *Placart*, and an
 Order to take off the Seizure made on its Part on the
 25th day of *December* last, of the said Merchandises,
 offering on the Part of the *West-India* Company of
France, to pay Rights and Dues of Convoy for the
 Entry, as they were paid for at the going out to the
 Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, or to others to whom they
 belong, they being a Right of State. His Majesty
 expects, from the Justice and Equity of your Lord-
 ships, that they will put a stop to these Vexations, it
 being easie for them to judge, that if People are ad-
 mitted in the same Case to make use of the same Pleas
 which are already decided, and determin'd by Justice,
 to make a second Seizure; Suits will be multiply'd to
 Infinity, which would not be either just or reason-
 able, and what his Majesty also does not believe to
 be the Intention of your Lordships; besides which,
 if a Company which has a Charter or *Octroy* from
 its Sovereign, was capable of obliging another Com-
 pany with a like *Octroy* of another Sovereign, to any
 Right of Acknowledgment towards it, 'twould be to
 attack the Sovereign it self, and oblige him to maintain
 the Privileges of his Company, which would make

a strange Confusion, and draw on very fatal Consequences. Given at the *Hague*, *January 23, 1668.*

D'ESTRADES.

From the most Christian King to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: January 22, 1668.

MOST dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, having some days since resolv'd to take our selves in Person, a Progress the next Month to carry on an Expedition of War; we thought that by Reason of the great Affinity which Hostilities always have with the Negotiations of Peace, either to advance or retard the latter, that Decency and Reason render it highly proper to communicate without delay our Design, and the Motives of it, to all the Princes and Potentates, our good Friends and Allies: And as in this number you hold a principal Rank, we shall tell you in the first place, that we purpose to set out from hence on the first Day of the next Month, and to go into the *Franche Comte* at the Head of a Body of Forces, to endeavour to possess our selves there of some Posts: As for the Motives which have induc'd us to take this Resolution, we had two principal ones; the first, and doubtless the most important, was by this Expedient to give you a better Opportunity, if our Arms are successful, to dispose the *Spaniards* to Peace; to which they have such an invincible aversion, that they would not yet even consent to treat of it, having already by Negligence or Design under several Pretexts let slip five Months of very precious time of seven that we have granted, and which have been so advantageously employ'd, without consenting to agree on the Place of meeting; a thing indifferent enough in its self, and on which it may besides be said, that they

have not taken their Measures well, very far from advancing the Agreement with us, who are their Enemy, or with the Mediators who have Interest in this Choice, for their own Convenience; for at the same time, that they have declar'd to our Holy Father the *Pope* with a resolute haughtiness, like that of Conquerors, that they will never treat any where but at *Rome*, *Venice*, or the *Pyrennees*: The Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, provided, as he says, with full Powers, has written to his Holiness's Minister which is on the *Rhine*, that he chose the Imperial City of *Aix la Chapelle*, which we instantly accepted, tho' with a very reasonable doubt, that the mention'd Marquis would be disown'd by the Court of *Madrid*; it being scarce to be believ'd that the Crown of *Spain* would in this manner impose on his Majesty, by a resolute Declaration that it would not treat in the Parts on this side, and that at the same time its pretended Plenipotentiary will treat here. We thought then, that to awaken our Enemies out of their Lethargy, or alter their design'd Proceedings, and the better to inspire in them the desire of Peace, than their Losses which they suffer'd last Campagne, have yet been able to do to a sufficient degree; we are oblig'd, both with regard to our own Person and our Forces, to slight the rigour of the Season, and all the Inconveniences of such a fatiguing Journey, in order, if possible, by some new Success of our Arms, to reduce them to a pressing want of that Peace, which they so obstinately reject, and make room for your Zeal for the Publick Repose to act more effectually and successfully with them to advance it, and not hazard it, and commit it to the Military Successes of the next Campagne. Our second principal Motive concerns our own Safety, and so far cannot be disapprov'd by any Person whatever, if he will judge aright of Things: We have been acquainted that the *Spanish* Ambassador Resident at the Court of *Vienna*, not content to have perswaded the Emperor to begin to make great Military Preparations on New-Year's Day, under Pretence that all the

Princes

Princes of the Empire also arm'd, after this first step, earnestly solicited the Emperor to send an Army in the Spring against us into the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, to endeavour to make a Diverſion there, which ſhould prevent our Forces being able to act in the *Netherlands*; and tho' we hope that Miſiſter will not ſucceed in his Negotiation, and that the Emperor, as well as we, will entirely keep to the *Westphalian Treaty*, which put out a Fire in the Empire which 'twas not poſſible to extinguiſh in thirty Years; yet nevertheless Prudence and ſound Policy not permitting us wholly to ſlight the ſecret Negotiations of the mention'd *Spaniſh Ambaſſador*, it was in ſome ſort indiſpenſably neceſſary to our own Security, as we have juſt ſaid, to meet this Danger, in order to guard us againſt it, by endeavouring before the favourable Season of the Year comes, to poſſeſs ſome Poſts in the *Franche Comte*, that we may not leave open that Entrance which they might otherwiſe have into our Dutchy of *Burgundy*, nor allow them the Convenience and Means to come and attack us.

A third and acceſſary Motive which we had, tho' far ſhort in Strength and Conſideration of the two others, has been to make appear to all *Europe* the Sincerity with which we, five Months ſince, offer'd a reciprocal Suſpenſion of Arms, and all Attempts on fortify'd Places on both ſides 'till the end of *March*; and alſo to check on this Subject the Petulance of the Governor of *Flanders*, who poiſoning all the Remedies which we offer for the Miſeries of Chriſtendom, in order to cure them without the leaſt delay, takes Pleaſure in writing to ſeveral Princes, and by his Emiſſaries to ſpread in all Places, that *France* in this Offer abuſ'd the whole World; that this Suſpenſion was made by God himſelf; and in ſhort, that it did not appear to him for what Reaſon he ought to receive as a Favour, or by Interpoſition, what Time and the Season of the Year gave him, and what even War its ſelf could not deprive him of; and to ſay truth, if he had contriv'd
any

bring them over from the ill Sentiments which they have conceiv'd. All the Storm is fallen on the Prince of *Tarento*, who being propos'd for General of the Cavalry, the Provinces consented, if *Holland* would have conform'd to their Opinion; but finding themselves refus'd, would not admit the said Prince to that Post; and *Holland* was oblig'd to agree on that Article with the other Provinces, that two Lieutenant-Generals of Horse should be created, of which the *Rhyngrave* should be the first, and the Prince of *Tarento* the second, and that they should not yet fill the Charge of General of the Horse, which the Provinces requir'd for the Prince of *Orange*. The Prince of *Tarento* has always acted in the Province of *Holland* with Zeal and Affection for the King's Interest and Service, as he does at present at the *Hague*, to which place he came during the Assembly of the States.

The mention'd Provinces are also agreed to the Charge of Field-Marshal for Monsieur *de Wit*, and have created a Lieutenant-General under him, a General of the Artillery, and two Serjeants of Battel. They are deliberating on the raising of a Thousand Dragoons, and Six new Regiments; the Commission for the levying of which in *Germany*, Monsieur *de Wit* is to have, and to fill the Charge with veteran experienc'd Officers.

I have complain'd to Monsieur *de Wit*, that the *Dutch* Ambassadors in *England* have consented to a Proposition made to them by the *Spanish* Ministers, to meet in the regulated Conferences with them and the King of *England's* Commissioners, which turn'd on a very offensive Declaration, which the Ambassadors design'd to make, and which I would hope they would not compass.

The *Sieur de Wit* answer'd me, That I should be clearly inform'd of the whole by the *Sieur de Meerman*, and the *Sieur Temple*, who yesterday return'd from *England*. The mention'd *Sieur Meerman's* Dispatch contain'd, That in the Conferences which they had with the King of *England's* Commissioners, they very
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much advanc'd their Treaty of Commerce; and that they then told them, That the States thought the Alternative which the King offer'd, in order to the Peace, favourable; that their Masters entreated the King of *England*, that he would please to make use of his good Offices to induce the *Spaniards* to it, and also join his Forces with theirs, to constrain them to it. On which the Commissioners deputed by the King of *England*, told them, That this Proposal was unjust, and that the King their Master would never consent to it; that he, the *Sieur Meerman*, told them, That the States would then alone do it, if the *Spaniards* refus'd the Peace; and thus separated themselves: That then the said *English* Commissioners, in another Conference, told them, That they had acquainted the King with their last Discourse, and also the *Spanish* Ministers, which were surpriz'd at the Recital which they made them; and that then *Molina* and *Pisola* desir'd a Conference with them, in presence of the *English* Commissioners, which they agreed to, and it was held the next Day; in which the *Spanish* Ministers offer'd several Reasons to prove, that the States, in Conjunction with *England*, ought to assist them against the King's Invasion of *Flanders*, contrary to a Treaty sworn on the most Serene Gospels; that they added several other Particulars on this Subject, which set off their Discourse; that they only said, that they would answer Word by Word what they had said to the *English* Commissioners, with which they were very ill satisfied. This is the Substance of what I read in *Montieur Meerman's* Dispatch.

The *Sieur de Wit* farther told me, That the mention'd *Meerman* is not without Hopes that the King of *England* may be perswaded to give into the same Sentiment in which they are entred for the sake of Peace, and *Temple* has sufficiently explain'd himself to some of the Deputies who are my Friends, and who have told it me. I thought it my Duty to tell *Montieur de Wit*, that it would be proper for him to write to *England* to *Montieur Meerman*, to end these sort of Conferences

with the *Spanish* Ministers, that one of them was sufficient to express the Intentions of their Masters; and that I thought that they also ought to impart the whole to Monsieur *Ruvigny*, with whom they did not correspond with that open-hearted Confidence, which they are oblig'd to do with the Ministers of the King, who on so many Occasions has given them Marks of his Friendship and Protection. He promis'd me to write to morrow earnestly on these two Points, and that he before-hand assur'd me, that the King would be content with their Proceedings, and that they would give an Account of all to Monsieur *Ruvigny*. I shall also write to him this Post to advise him of it, and pray him to write me whether those Ambassadors do as Monsieur *de Wit* has promis'd.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: January 20, 1668.*

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 12th. I have nothing to say to you on the ridiculous Opinion of the Province of *Utrecht*, which has been follow'd by that of *Friesland*; but you may assure Monsieur *de Wit*, from most certain Informations which the King has receiv'd, that when Sir *William Temple* ventur'd to say at the *Hague*, that the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* is secure of *England* and *Sweden*, if the *United Provinces* would enter into a League, that he advanc'd what was very false, with regard to both of them; yet 'twas impossible for the *Sieur de Wit* to answer the mention'd *Temple* with more Prudence than he did, with which besides his Majesty is very much oblig'd. 'Twas only to be desir'd that the State would not approve the scandalous Step, with regard to this Crown, which the Ambassador *Meerman* made at *London*, when he consented to meet the *English* Commissioners, in Conjunction with, and in the presence of the Ministers of the House of *Austria*;

Stria; for tho' his Majesty well knows that the mention'd *Meerman* has hitherto contain'd himself so far as to speak of nothing but the means of inclining the *Spaniards* to the Peace, by the false Hopes which the *Spaniards* conceive of perswading *England* and *Holland* to a League against *France*.

We agree with you here on the Truth of what you write, that at *London* there are secret Endeavours to engage the States to a League for the Defence of the *Low-Countries*; and if there should be none but only who lov'd the *Spaniards*, he will never fail trumping up such Propositions; but the King knows, beyond possibility of a Doubt, that whatever the *English* will say on this Occasion, results only from their Jealousie and Fear, that the States should enter into stricter Alliances with his Majesty, and perhaps to engage them to Measures which may intirely disoblige *France*; and I may add, that if the Negotiations of this League should advance at *London* in such manner as to render the King apprehensive of the Conclusion of it, he has in readiness some sure Methods to stop it, almost at once, and at the same time do the *English* the greatest Pleasure in the World: I cannot explain my self farther, but Monsieur *de Wit* has too much Penetration not easily to know and judge, that what I say is true.

I continue still to say, and shall always persist in it, that the Infallibility of Peace, and that very suddenly, consists in no more than talking resolutely to the *Spaniards*, and making appear to them their certain Loss, if they refuse one of the Alternatives; and so much the rather, as I have already written you, because most of the *Spanish* Ministers abroad advise those at *Madrid* to accept one of them; and themselves affirm, that their Monarchy has no other way besides this only of saving the *Netherlands*.

ADDITION.

The King has caus'd to be ras'd out of the Registers of the Parliament, all that was done against his Authority,

rity, from the year 1647, to the end of the year 1652. That Assembly has, doubtless, felt the Blow, but the Pain of it ought to be only that of not having taken the same Resolution long since, which it ought to have done, it being no more than an Effect of its Obedience.

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THE Count D'Estrades, Ambassador Extraordi-
nary of France, has Orders from the King his
Master to remonstrate to your Lordships, that at the
End of the Year 1666 he presented several Memo-
rials to desire that they would permit the Ship named
the *Europe*, belonging to the *West-India* Company of
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said Vessel belong'd (as they pretend) to private Per-
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by reason of undue and visible Vexation. Next to this, pursuant to the Order for taking off the Seizure, the Merchandises when unladen, and put into a Lighter, were afresh seiz'd by the same Company, they maintaining, that by the 11th and 12th Articles of a *Placart* of your Lordships in the Year 1648, is express'd, That all Ships going within the Limits of the *Ostroy* of the Company of this Country, which are wholly the same as those of that of *France*, from Cape *Vert* to that of *Good Hope*, are to pay the Right of Convoy due to the Admiralty, as a Right of State; to which Admiralty the said Right or Custom was paid, pursuant to the Acquittances of the 4th of *October* 1666, when the Ship went out, without any thing being said against it by the said Company; and from which Admiralty the Passports of Entry were taken at the Return from the said Voyage, and dated the 5th of *September*, and 23d of *December* 1667, which cannot be drawn into any ill Consequence, nor Prejudice to the King's Power in the Charter which he granted the said Company of *France*, the said Right of Convoy being a Right of the State, and which is consequently paid from Sovereign to Sovereign, it would be indifferent whether 'twere paid to the Admiralty or to the Company, if it belong'd to it, without a pretended Right of Acknowledgment demanded by the Company of this State, on account of the pretended Trading within the Limits of their *Ostroy*, which (as is above-said) are the same with those of the Company of *France*, which never at all traded in the Countries subject to the Company of this Country, but in the Free *French*, *English* or *Danish* Places; all which have the same Limits with the Company of this Country; which has been already debated and decided by the said Sentences and Discharges, and the Order for taking off the Seizure of your Lordships Courts of Justice. But these frivolous Pretences being so many Vexations, which probably the said Company undertakes for no other Reason than the Hopes that it shall

be acquitted at a small Expence, without any Costs and Damages; and this ill Treatment is besides directly contrary to the Intention of the Marine Treaties of 1662, made betwixt his Majesty and you: Lordships: You will easily judge, that the Occidental Company of this State has no Reason (as has been already determin'd) to cause that of *France*, which is as well privileg'd as they, within the same Limits above-mention'd, to be consider'd as private Men, with regard to which, the Articles of the said *Placart* were drawn up; and thus give Laws to Sovereigns, by making them pay Rights of Acknowledgment which are not due; for which Reason the said Ambassador Extraordinary prays your Lordships to cause the Company of this State to desist from the Continuation of these insupportable litigious Wranglings, to give an Explication of the said Articles of the *Placart*, and an Order to take off the Seizure made on its Part on the 25th day of *December* last, of the said Merchandises, offering on the Part of the *West-India* Company of *France*, to pay Rights and Dues of Convoy for the Entry, as they were paid for at the going out to the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, or to others to whom they belong, they being a Right of State. His Majesty expects, from the Justice and Equity of your Lordships, that they will put a stop to these Vexations, it being easie for them to judge, that if People are admitted in the same Case to make use of the same Pleas which are already decided, and determin'd by Justice, to make a second Seizure; Suits will be multiply'd to Infinity, which would not be either just or reasonable, and what his Majesty also does not believe to be the Intention of your Lordships; besides which, if a Company which has a Charter or *Ostrey* from its Sovereign, was capable of obliging another Company with a like *Ostrey* of another Sovereign, to any Right of Acknowledgment towards it, 'twould be to attack the Sovereign it self, and oblige him to maintain the Privileges of his Company, which would make

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D'ESTRADES.

From the most Christian King to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: January 22, 1668.

MOST dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, having some days since resolv'd to take our selves in Person, a Progress the next Month to carry on an Expedition of War; we thought that by Reason of the great Affinity which Hostilities always have with the Negotiations of Peace, either to advance or retard the latter, that Decency and Reason render it highly proper to communicate without delay our Design, and the Motives of it, to all the Princes and Potentates, our good Friends and Allies: And as in this number you hold a principal Rank, we shall tell you in the first place, that we purpose to set out from hence on the first Day of the next Month, and to go into the *Franche Comte* at the Head of a Body of Forces, to endeavour to possess our selves there of some Posts: As for the Motives which have induc'd us to take this Resolution, we had two principal ones; the first, and doubtless the most important, was by this Expedient to give you a better Opportunity, if our Arms are successful, to dispose the *Spaniards* to Peace; to which they have such an invincible aversion, that they would not yet even consent to treat of it, having already by Negligence or Design under several Pretexts let slip five Months of very precious time of seven that we have granted, and which have been so advantageously employ'd, without consenting to agree on the Place of meeting; a thing indifferent enough in its self, and on which it may besides be said, that they

have not taken their Measures well, very far from advancing the Agreement with us, who are their Enemy, or with the Mediators who have Interest in this Choice, for their own Convenience; for at the same time, that they have declar'd to our Holy Father the *Pope* with a resolute haughtiness, like that of Conquerors, that they will never treat any where but at *Rome*, *Venice*, or the *Pyrenes*: The Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, provided, as he says, with full Powers, has written to his Holiness's Minister which is on the *Rhine*, that he chose the Imperial City of *Aix la Chapelle*, which we instantly accepted, tho' with a very reasonable doubt, that the mention'd Marquis would be disown'd by the Court of *Madrid*; it being scarce to be believ'd that the Crown of *Spain* would in this manner impose on his Majesty, by a resolute Declaration that it would not treat in the Parts on this side, and that at the same time its pretended Plenipotentiary will treat here. We thought then, that to awaken our Enemies out of their Lethargy, or alter their design'd Proceedings, and the better to inspire in them the desire of Peace, than their Losses which they suffer'd last Campagne, have yet been able to do to a sufficient degree; we are oblig'd, both with regard to our own Person and our Forces, to slight the rigour of the Season, and all the Inconveniences of such a fatiguing Journey, in order, if possible, by some new Success of our Arms, to reduce them to a pressing want of that Peace, which they so obstinately reject, and make room for your Zeal for the Publick Repose to act more effectually and successfully with them to advance it, and not hazard it, and commit it to the Military Successes of the next Campagne. Our second principal Motive concerns our own Safety, and so far cannot be disapprov'd by any Person whatever, if he will judge aright of Things: We have been acquainted that the *Spanish* Ambassador Resident at the Court of *Vienna*, not content to have perswaded the Emperor to begin to make great Military Preparations on New-Year's Day, under Pretence that all the

Princes

Princes of the Empire also arm'd, after this first step, earnestly solicited the Emperor to send an Army in the Spring against us into the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, to endeavour to make a Diversion there, which should prevent our Forces being able to act in the *Netherlands*; and tho' we hope that Minister will not succeed in his Negotiation, and that the Emperor, as well as we, will entirely keep to the *Westphalian Treaty*, which put out a Fire in the Empire which 'twas not possible to extinguish in thirty Years; yet nevertheless Prudence and sound Policy not permitting us wholly to slight the secret Negotiations of the mention'd *Spanish Ambassador*, it was in some sort indispensably necessary to our own Security, as we have just said, to meet this Danger, in order to guard us against it, by endeavouring before the favourable Season of the Year comes, to possess some Posts in the *Franche Comte*, that we may not leave open that Entrance which they might otherwise have into our Dutchy of *Burgundy*, nor allow them the Convenience and Means to come and attack us.

A third and accessary Motive which we had, tho' far short in Strength and Consideration of the two others, has been to make appear to all *Europe* the Sincerity with which we, five Months since, offer'd a reciprocal Suspension of Arms, and all Attempts on fortify'd Places on both sides 'till the end of *March*; and also to check on this Subject the Petulance of the Governor of *Flanders*, who poisoning all the Remedies which we offer for the Miseries of Christendom, in order to cure them without the least delay, takes Pleasure in writing to several Princes, and by his Emissaries to spread in all Places, that *France* in this Offer abus'd the whole World; that this Suspension was made by God himself; and in short, that it did not appear to him for what Reason he ought to receive as a Favour, or by Interposition, what Time and the Season of the Year gave him, and what even War its self could not deprive him of; and to say truth, if he had contriv'd
any

any Enterprize or Surprize of our Towns by the Favour of the Winter Frosts, he had been in the Right not to have ty'd his Hands from the Execution of it; but nothing having appear'd on this side, besides a very mean Design of surprizing *Chatelet*, for which he made Preparations of Ladders and Petards at *Cambray*, and in which he fail'd; but if our Arms prove successful in the *Franche Comte*, 'twill be his Task to see how he can justifie himself to the Queen his Mistress, for what his temerity or imprudence must have cost the King her Son, whilst he for the space of seven Months rejected an infallible way of settling all the *Spanish* Towns in an intire secure Estate, contenting himself instead of something more solid tending to the Interest of Peace, with making Declamations, which he took to be very patheticall to prove to weak Intellects, how just it would be to give over a War undertaken against an Infant of the Age of six Years, restore, (says he) things to their first Estate, and defer the decision of the Differences to a competent Judge. But yet not only to make known to all Christendom, but to convince the *Marquis de Castel Rodrigo* himself, that by the Expedition which we are going on, we have no design to raise any new Obstacle to the Peace, but rather to excite in the Minds of our Enemies such Thoughts as may facilitate it; we declare to you, that what Success soever our March may have, and what Advantage soever we may obtain, if we gain any, which always is uncertain in Designs and Affairs of this Nature, we will not for that Reason pretend to higher, or more advantageous Conditions of Peace, than those which we have offer'd to content our selves with 'till the end of *March*; that is to say, that the *Spaniards* yield to us in due Form the sole Conquests which we made in the space of three Months the last Campaign; or that they give us an Equivalent, in the manner which we have already signify'd to you; and from this Declaration which we make with great Sincerity, may be drawn an infallible Consequence (which we think to be

Honourable

Honourable and very Glorious to us) which is, that from this Journey which we are going to take, attended with several Incommodities and Fatigues not to be avoided in this Season of the Year, we shall not reap (if the *Spaniards* will make use of our good Intention) any other Crop than that of applying our selves in search of the most pressing Means to dispose them to Peace; since it appears that we are beforehand willing to renounce all sort of other Advantage which may accrue to us. In the mean time, we pray God, &c. Written at *St. Germain en Laye*, January 22, 1668.

Your good Friend, *Allie and Confederate*,

Signed, LOUIS.

And Lower, De Lionne.

The Supercription was,

To our most dear great Friends, *Allies and Confederates*,
the Lords States-General of the United-Province
of the Netherlands.

From Messieurs the States-General of the
United-Provinces of the Netherlands
to the most Christian King: January 26,
1668.

S I R,

SINCE your Majesty has made known to us your last Intention, concerning the Satisfaction which might end the War betwixt you and the King of *Spain*, we have continually and with Application thought of ways to oblige him to give it you. We can say that we have strenuously endeavour'd to engage the *Spaniards* to acquiesce in it; but have met with such great Resistance, that we could not hope for any Success, when

when we don't see those who could second our good Intentions, but are taking different Measures, enter into the same Sentiments: We have at last been so happy as to see our Cares succeed; the King of *Great Britain* having express'd himself in such manner, as your Majesty can desire for your Satisfaction, and suffering himself to be dispos'd to act efficaciously in Conjunction with us, to induce the *Spaniards* to give your Majesty what he asks. This is what we have imparted to the Count *d'Esbrados*, and acquainted him, that at present we have it in our Power not only to continue to labour with much appearance of Success, but also at this time are not afraid to answer for it, and to say that your Majesty may at your Word, without the Effusion of one drop of Christian Blood, obtain what you say you desire. We don't doubt but you will approve of our Proceedings, so replete with Marks of Affection and Zeal for your Glory and Satisfaction; as well as for the Repose of Christendom. This is, Sir, what we thought necessary to acquaint your Majesty, 'till we express our selves more largely by the Mouth of the Extraordinary Ambassador, whom we shall oblige to set out the soonest possible, to concert with you the Measures which are necessary to be taken to finish this great Work, to your Majesty's Honour, and the Peace and Happiness of the Universe. We think our View in all this, to be so conform to your Majesty's Intention, that 'tis not possible for you not to consent to the Proofs which we give you of the Sincerity of ours. We shall always be ready to express to your Majesty the Sentiments of Respect, with which we are, Sir, &c. At the *Hague*, January 26, 1668.

From

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur
de Lionne : January 26, 1668.

YOU will have seen, Sir, by my last Dispatch, what Monsieur *de Wit* said to me on the arrival of Sir *William Temple*, who after his Audience, press'd the conclusion of a perpetual defensive Treaty: Monsieur *de Wit*, at the same time, spake of entring into an Engagement with the States, to bring the *Spaniards* to yield the Alternative to the King, and that in case of Refusal they should join their Arms together to force them. The said *Temple* reply'd, that the King, his Master, objecting against this Condition propos'd by their Ambassador as too harsh, he entreated that they would substitute one that is softer, in order to enable them the more to induce the *Spaniards* to give this Satisfaction to his Majesty; in the mean time, the Provinces which refus'd to join in the Opinion of that of *Holland*, hearing that *England* would enter into it; are agreed to it, except *Utrecht*, which has protested against it: *We cannot in Conscience*, says that Province, *force a King to yield up his Dominions*. After this Consent obtain'd, they debated the going on the Instructions of Monsieur *van Beuningen*, which could not be done without this, and he will be ready to set out for *France* next Week. Monsieur *de Wit* and the Commissioners then labour'd on the Treaty with Sir *William Temple*, and communicated to me the Articles, which I did not like, finding matter of Objection against some, that they us'd too rough Terms to extort the King's Consent to the Peace; that also his Majesty would not one Moment retard the acting of his Arms in case of the *Spaniards* Refusal of the Alternative; and what the most surpriz'd me was, that I did not see the Engagement of the King of *England*, nor of the States, to break effectually with the *Spaniards* in case of the Re-
fus

fusal of the Conditions, with which his Majesty contents himself.

The *Sieur de Wit* said that the Treaty could not be otherwise conceiv'd, as well to draw in the King of *England* and disengage him from *Spain*, as to oblige the Consent of the Provinces, the want of which would still stop the Conclusion, it not being sufficient that *Holland* alone was for the Rupture; but that they would give the King Satisfaction on that Point, when *Monfieur van Beuningen* should sign the Treaty at *Paris* with his Majesty, where things should be clearly express'd, and the word *Break* particularly specify'd: But in such a Republick as this, 'twas necessary to regulate Affairs according to their Constitution, and take time when it appear'd favourable, as he had done on this Occasion; that he pray'd the King to be perswaded, that the States would procure his obtaining the Alternative, and that the *Spaniards* could not resist the Declarations which the Kings of *England*, *Sweden*, the States, the Dukes of *Lunenburg* and other Princes of their Allies would at the same time make to them, to yield the Alternative for the sake of Peace.

I reply'd to him, that I continu'd firm to my Opinion, and that they would know his Majesty's by his Answer to this Dispatch; yet they sign'd the Treaty, and I have sent you a Copy which *Monfieur de Wit* brought me, confirming to me that he did not himself believe that they could have gotten *England* to have made this step; that to bind it the more, he had been this Morning with *Sir William Temple*, to signify to the *Spanish* Ambassador that the Resolution of the King of *England* and the States was taken to constrain *Spain* to make Peace on the Conditions propos'd and express'd in the Treaty, of which they gave him a Copy. He was very angry, and told them that the King, his Master, would rather lose all his Dominions, than be guilty of such Meanness. He farther told me, that to Morrow they would consider on sending Deputies to *Castel Rodrigo*, and tell him the same, and that

Temple

Temple would go on the part of the King of *England* with the said Deputies; that he would write by the the next Post to *Madria* to the *Dutch* Ambassador, to declare to the Queen and her Council the Resolution which the States have taken, and that he would not omit any thing which could advance the Peace, pursuant to the propos'd Conditions.

If the Province of *Holland* had not continu'd firm to its first Opinion, and the others had been separated as they endeavour'd to do, they would have been engag'd to the defence of the *Netherlands*, without its having been in the Power of Messieurs *de Wit*, *van Benningen* and I to have hindred it, and that by a tumultuary Resolution: The *Spaniards* had at that time dispers'd thro' the Cities and Provinces a Letter from *England*, which contain'd that Monsieur *de Ruigny* propos'd to the King of *England* a League Offensive and Defensive against all, and particularly the States; that the two Kings should divide *Flanders*, and that *Zealand* should be allotted to *England*, and *Brabant* to the King, presupposing by this League the declaring War against the States; it contain'd besides some other impertinent Articles. The Cities of *Holland* did not fall into this Snare; the Provinces made use of it to continue more obstinate; but at present that rub is remov'd, and their design discover'd.

I find several Deputies of my Friends in pain, concerning the manner of my expressing my self to Monsieur *de Wit* and them, on the Treaty of *England*. I am not uneasie at leaving them so, in order to draw thence as much advantage as is possible for the King, when the Treaty which Monsieur *van Benningen* is to propose shall be concluded, and certainly they will yield some things which they would not, if they believ'd the King was content. I shall remain in the Sentiment which I have declar'd to them, 'till farther Order.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: January 26, 1668.

SINCE the writing of my other Letter, Monsieur *de Wit* and *van Benningen* came to me on the part of the States, to tell me, that they were surpriz'd, to hear from him, the *Sieur de Wit*, that I was not content with the Treaty made with the King of *England*; that they had order to assure me that their Intention was no other than to approve sincerely the Conditions which the King himself had demanded by his Memorial, and that as for the Particulars which concern'd his Majesty's Satisfaction, they would give Order to Monsieur *van Benningen* to procure and give him all the Explications necessary to justify their good and sincere Intention; that the States are inclin'd to assure his Majesty of it by a Letter which their Ambassador shall deliver him: Monsieur *de Wit* told me on the part of the States, the same Reasons which are contain'd in my first Dispatch. I answer'd him, that I should not change my Mind, that I believ'd that the States ought not to have entred into such an Engagement with *England*, without first knowing his Majesty's Intention; that since Monsieur *van Benningen* was to set out quickly, and satisfy his Majesty on the Points which might offend him, there was room to hope that by his good Conduct, Affairs would come to a good end, and that in the mean time, I thank'd the States for their Communication of the Letter which they wrote to the King.

The *Sieur de Wit* told me, that the States were this Day to sign a like Engagement with that of *England*, with the Count *de Dobna*, Ambassador from *Sweden*, who was to go to Morrow for *England*.

From

From the King to the Count D'Esttrades:
January 27, 1668.

I Sent you a Letter which I thought fit to write to the States-General, to impart to them a Military Expedition, on which I shall march my self on the first Day of the next Month, and to inform them of the Motives which induc'd me to take this Resolution in a Season so rigorous: As the principal of them all was the Advancement of the Peace, as you will see in the mention'd Letter, which to that end I caus'd to be seal'd with a flying Seal: I doubt not but the States will not only very much approve my Design, but also that they will give me great Thanks, and particularly for the Declaration which I have been pleas'd to make by Advance, that what new Progresses soever my Arms may make in this Expedition, they shall not oblige me to alter, in the Conditions of Peace, the two Alternatives which I have offer'd, provided that they be accepted by the *Spaniards* in the competent time which I have always express'd. You have a large Field by that to set a Value on my singular Moderation in all the *United-Provinces*; and, I am willing to believe that after this Knowledge which they shall have of it, they will return to more proper Sentiments for the publick Good, and their State in particuar, than you inform me those of *Friseland*, *Groningen* and *Utrecht* yet are, who would extort from me an Arbitration and Suspension, which I can never agree to for so many Reasons which are easie to Judge, and so much the rather, because both the one and other would be contrary to the Peace to be advanc'd.

'Tis above twenty Days since I receiv'd News from *England*, the Storms at Sea having hindred the Pacquet-Boats coming to *Calais*; so that I cannot yet know any thing from *London*, even what pass'd with Sir *William Temple* when he arriv'd, and was sent to the *Hague*;

but I will venture to say, that 'twill be a push towards the Peace which will render it infallible and expeditious, if the King of *Great Britain* enters into the same Serriment with the States-General, to oblige the *Spaniards* to the acceptance of the two Alternatives; in the interim, 'twould be well if the *Sieur de Wis* would write to the Ambassadors *Meermans* and *Borrel*, to carry themselves less reserv'd to the *Sieur de Rouigny*.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: January 27, 1668.

THE last News from *Madrid* bring that the *English* Ambassador set out on the 5th of this Month for *Lisbon*, to offer there from the Queen of *Spain* to treat of Peace with *Portugal*, directly from King to King; but the Prince Regent, who by this time will be crown'd King in the Assembly of the States of the Realm, which were to begin their Session the 20th, has written to the King, by the Queen's Secretary, who arriv'd here Yesterday, that he will not accept that Offer, nor make any Accommodation but in Conjunction with this Crown, pursuant to the Treaty which he has with it; that on the 6th, the Marquis of *Caracene* dy'd of an Abscess, two Days after being made President of the Council of *Flanders*: This was the only General of her Nation, which *Spain* had; that the rest of the Fleet was safely arriv'd at *Cadiz*, and that fresh Difficulties arose about the departure of *Don John of Austria* for the *Netherlands*; he demands new Conditions, which 'tis not easie to grant him.

There is come to my Hands a printed Libel, entitled, *Remarks on the Proceedings of France, with regard to the Negotiation of Peace*; 'tis doubtless a new Composition of *Isola*, which is subtilly enough written to make Impression on less discerning Minds, and such as are but little acquainted with the People of the

United.

United-Provinces. I found there inserted at large the Project of Accommodation, which I address'd to you with my Dispatch of the 18th of *November*: I was not surpriz'd, concluding that perhaps Monsieur *de Wit* communicated it in the *Provinces*, that they might consider of its Contents, tho' he might have done the same thing with an Extract of its Substance; but I own to you, that I was infinitely surpriz'd to find there also Fragments or Parcels of that Dispatch, or perhaps of some other which are ill boath'd together, and of which it seem'd to me not at all necessary to give Copies to Monsieur *de Wit*, and yet less for him to divulge them, as the Event does but too evidently prove; for I write to you in all Confidence the King's Thoughts, as a Secretary of State ought to do to an Ambassador, believing them to go no farther; and three Months afterwards I find my Dispatches printed with Commentaries, our Enemies make great Advantages by the capricious Interpretations which they give them. This Libel is very dangerous, if the Reader happens not to penetrate deeper than its Surface: It ought not to be left without an Answer, and if I have a Moments leisure after the King's departure, I will apply my self to it, but under the Name of some disinterested Foreigners, not being willing publicly to engage such a Man as *l'Isola*; but neither is the King's just Cause to be abandon'd, nor the Sincerity and Moderation of his Proceedings, on which account all Princes disinterested in this War, rather owe to the King their utmost Praises and great Thanks, than any reflection on those Libels which aim at the taxing of his Conduct.

From the Count D'Estrades to the King :
February 2, 1668.

I Deliver'd to the President of the Week, the Letter which your Majesty wrote to the States; and they afterwards sent their Deputies to me, and express'd to me their Obligation to your Majesty for the Communication of your Design to them, and the Assurances, that what Conquests soever you should make, your Majesty would still, for the Promotion of Peace, keep to the Conditions which you had already propos'd, which is the Alternatives, with which they remain'd very well satisfied.

Some days since, the Report of your Majesty's intending a Journey very much alarm'd them, they apprehending your enterprising something in *Flanders*, which had diverted the good Dispositions which they express, of procuring for your Majesty the Alternative from the *Spaniards*; and that could not have advanc'd the Conclusion of the Treaty with the *English*, without acquainting me with it till after its signing, of which I have made great Complaints to the States. Their Reasons are, That the King of *England* desir'd that it should not be divulg'd before 'twas finish'd; that if they had imparted it to me, I should have ask'd time to have advis'd your Majesty of it; that the King of *England* might have been diverted by the *Spaniards* from this good Inclination, and they have lost the Opportunity of bringing the Provinces to join in the Opinion of *Holland*, except that of *Utrecht*, which would not consent; that to prove how much the States have been forc'd to make this Treaty with the Precipitation and Secrecy with which 'twas done, is sufficient that they pass'd it contrary to their ordinary Forms, and their Treaty of Union, which oblige that no Treaty be resolv'd on with Princes, which has not been before communicated to the Provinces, and yet this was sign'd by
the

the States-General, before the Provinces knew of it; and afterwards they urg'd to them all the Reasons above, to engage them to approve it.

As to their Intention, they yesterday sent some Deputies to me, to assure me, that 'twas very sincere; that they had not made the Treaty with *England*, if they had not been engag'd to act vigorously against the *Spaniards*, in case of their Refusal of the Alternative; that the King of *Sweden* and the Dukes of *Brunswick* have entred into the same Engagement; That to prove their good Intention for your Majesty's Satisfaction, they yesterday sent two Deputies to *Castel Rodrigo*, to signify to him from the States their Resolution, to pray him to use all possible Endeavours to facilitate the yielding to your Majesty the Alternative; and that in case of Refusal, the King of *England*, the King of *Sweden*, the Dukes of *Brunswick*, together with the other Allies, and they, would join to constrain them; that Sir *William Temple* has written the same to him, on the part of the King his Master; and that they don't conceive that 'twill be possible for the *Spaniards* to refuse your Majesty's Desire, you continuing to content your self with the Alternative, which is, as they say, the Foundation of all their Points. This, Sir, is what pass'd since the Dispatch of the 26th of *January*, which I sent to Monsieur de *Lionne*.

Monsieur *van Benningen* sets out in four days without farther delay, his Instructions being sign'd.

After the reading of your Majesty's Letter, the States dispatch'd an express Courier to the Commissioners deputed to *Castel Rodrigo*, on the Acceptance of the Alternative, because 'tis plain that there is no room to doubt your Majesty's contenting himself with the said Alternative, what Progress soever you may make in the Journey which you have undertaken.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: February 2, 1668.

YOU have too much Reason, Sir, to complain of what has happen'd about your Dispatch of the 18th of *November*, and the Event shews, that for the future 'tis necessary to resolve not to treat any more of Affairs with the States, but in publick, since there is so little Secresie in what passes thro' their Hands.

When I receiv'd your Dispatch of the 18th of *November*, we had all the Cities of *Holland* and the Provinces against us, and endeavouring to make Alliances on all Sides to oppose the King's Designs; Monsieur *de Wit* having declar'd to me, that he could not assure himself of even four Citics, and that all the Complaints which he made me of the King's Designs, and of his Entry into *Flanders*, contrary to the Promises which he had made to attempt nothing, without first communicating it to the States, was by Order, and that the said Cities and Provinces knew that all that he had said to them to bring them over, was in concert with me, we making use of the King's Name. He told me, after my having communicated to him the Substance of your Dispatch of the 18th of *November*, and the Project, which was an Answer to that which he had given me from the States, that 'twas very proper that he took a Copy of the said Dispatch as it was, because it contain'd nothing which might not be shewn to the Deputies of the Cities and Provinces; that the Advantage which he pretended to draw from it, was to shew them by the Answer, that he had talk'd to me according to their Sentiments, and that these Terms of Recrimination of Monsieur *de Wit* clearly express'd it; that for the other Points of the Answer, they were all of great Force, and proper to bring them to better Sentiments than those which they had.

That

That the Project ought to be communicated to the Deputies of Secret Affairs, in order wholly to abolish the Project which he had given me with their Participation; that he should gain considerably on the Deputies of the Cities, by the Contents of the said Dispatch; and that undoubtedly they would be better perswaded of the Exactness of his Procedure, by seeing the Answer in all parts of it, what he could have told them.

I gave him leave to take a Copy of it on these Considerations, on Condition that it should remain in his Hands, which he promis'd; that making use of the said Copy, he brought *Holland* to give a favourable Suffrage; that for the Project he was also oblig'd to communicate it to the Deputies of the States-General, to bring the Provinces to agree to it; that 'tis only a Train of Conditions contain'd in the King's Memorial, and which, it being impossible to remain secret, were communicated to the Provinces. But as for the Letter, he one day left it with three of the Commissioners of Secret Affairs, on their Oath not to take a Copy of it; that 'tis one of them that he suspects has betray'd it, that he has very much blam'd him for it, and broke with him; and 'tis impossible to shew more Concern and Resentment than the *Sieur de Wit* does on this account, for he has lately discover'd that this Person is intirely gain'd by the *Spanish* Ambassador; and I doubt not but *Monfieur de Wit* will take an Occasion to revenge it, this Affair touching him nearly, as it does me also, and that to a Degree which I cannot express.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades; February 3, 1668.*

I Receiv'd your two Letters of the 26th of the last Month, which inform the King of great, sudden and unexpected Changes. *Monfieur Borel* has also sent

me the Letter which the States have written to his Majesty, on their Agreement with the King of *Great Britain* concerning the Peace, and into which the Count *de Dhona* was to enter on the morrow, in the Name of the King his Master. His Majesty will not answer the States Letter, till he has heard *Monfieur van Beuningen*, who by the good Orders which he hopes that he will have, and his good Conduct, may easily rectifie all that has pass'd on this Occasion, in such manner that his Majesty may not receive any Prejudice by his sincere Intentions for the Re-establisment of the publick Peace. To give you my private Opinion of what is done, the principal Foundation seems to me to be for the King's Interest and Advantage, the manner not very agreeable, and the Terms of the Agreement might have been handsomer; but the Event will prove whether the Intentions have been good or ill, with regard to this Crown, in which *Monfieur de Wit* may very much contribute, by continuing to give his Majesty Marks of his Friendship, in which the King will always confide, till we see direct contrary Effects. You may acquaint *Madam Flemming*, that I have my self remitted the King's Present to the *Sieur Puffendorff*, and that he has undertaken to send it safe.

The King has nominated for his Ambassador Extraordinary, and his second Plenipotentiary for the Negotiation of the Peace, *Monfieur Colbert*, Master of Requests, who will set out from hence, with the greatest Diligence possible, for *Aix la Chapelle*, as soon as he receives the Passport, which I have sent for for him to the *Marquis of Castel Rodrigo*, by his Holiness's Minister. Please to give Advice of it to the States, and add, That when the mention'd *Marquis* will declare the Time when he will come to *Aix la Chapelle*, his Majesty will appoint one of the Officers of his Crown, his Ambassador Extraordinary, and first Plenipotentiary. But if he has Power to subdelegate, as he has given us to understand, the mention'd *Colbert* will make no Difficulty to negotiate with the Person to whom he will give such Subdelegation.

His

His Majesty set out from hence yesterday in good Health, on his Military Expedition, which I mention'd in my former. If his Arms are successful, as there is all reason to hope, 'twill be a great Compulsive on the *Spaniards* to sign the Peace quickly, and a good Means for the States to dispose them to it.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: February 9, 1668.

I Receiv'd the Dispatch which you did me the Honour to write me on the third of this Instant. I have advis'd the States of the Choice which the King has made of Monsieur *Colbert*, Master of Requests, for the Treaty of Peace, and that he will set out for *Aix la Chapelle* as soon as his Passes are come. I find things here dispos'd to change; the Employ which was destin'd for Monsieur *van Beverning* for *Vienna*, into that of the States Plenipotentiary to go to *Aix*: He being at present Burgomaster of *Tergou*, twelve Cities of *Holland* have given him their Voice for that Employ, and 'tis not to be doubted, but the six others will conform to it. I have made your Compliments to Monsieur *van Beningen*, who, as well as Monsieur *de Wit*, has promis'd that the King shall be pleas'd with them, and that his Majesty shall know that nothing has been done but for his Advantage. I answer'd them, That the Effects would make that appear; and that his Majesty expected to receive Proofs of it in the present Conjunction.

From

Memorial of the Count D'Estrades, presented to the States-General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands: February 10, 1668.

THE Count *D'Estrades*, Ambassador-Extraordinary of *France*, has Order from the King, his Master, to make known to your Lordships, that his Majesty has nominated for his Ambassador Extraordinary and second Plenipotentiary for the Negotiation of the Peace, Monsieur *Colbert*, Master of Requests, and that he will set out to be with the utmost speed possible at *Aix la Chapelle*, as soon as he shall have receiv'd his Passports, which have been ask'd for him of the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*; and also that as soon as the said Marquis declares the time when he will please to be at the said Place of *Aix*, his Majesty will appoint one of the Officers of his Crown, with the Character of his Ambassador Extraordinary, and his first Plenipotentiary; and in case that the said Marquis has Power to Subdelegate, as he has given to understand, the said *Sieur Colbert* will make no difficulty of negotiating with the Person to whom he shall give such Subdelegation; which may more and more convince your Lordships, that his Majesty neglects nothing on his Part, of all that can lead most surely and expeditiously to a Good, so desirable as is that of Peace. Deliver'd at the *Hague*, February 10, 1668.

D'ESTRADES.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: February 16, 1668.

I Receiv'd, Sir, your Dispatch of the 10th of this Instant. If you take the pains to look back to mine of the 26th of the last Month, you will there find the Propositions which were made to the States, for the raising of six Regiments, and a Regiment of Dragoons, which are to be made twelve thousand Men. The Letter which the Deputies wrote to the Provinces to obtain their Consent, is what is commonly practis'd after a Proposal is made, and is of no Consequence; and I did not think it a thing fit to be sent to you, since it must return to the Council of State, to whom the Affairs of the Militia are committed, the Opinion of which has not been given above four Days, and contains that they shall take six thousand Men of the Duke of *Brunswick's* Forces, and if they cannot furnish such a large Body, they will recruit the old Companies of Dragoons, and give Order to the Marshal *Wiss* to raise a *German* Regiment of sixteen Companies of an hundred Men each, and supply what shall be wanting of that number of twelve thousand Men propos'd, by the raising of particular Companies, which shall be incorporated in the Regiments to render them compleat; this, Sir, is the true Resolution which was taken but four Days since, only in the Council of State: As for the forty-eight Sail which are to be equipp'd, pursuant to the Treaty made betwixt *England* and the States, the Consent of the Provinces did not arrive before Yesterday with all the Ratifications except that of *Friseland*, because the States were not assembled, *Utrecht* sent its own, and is agreed with the others; the King of *England* has also sent his Ratification by *Temple's* Brother; they will be exchange'd in two Days.

I also gave my self the Honour to write to you by my Dispatch of the 26th of the past Month, that the
Dukes

Dukes of *Lunenburg* were fix'd to the States; that they paying for six thousand of their Troops, they always depended on having them in their Service. I did not defer so long as to this time my Complaint to *Monf. de Wit*, that he did not tell me what was contain'd in the secret Articles, which I knew another way than by him, without being able to get a Copy; one Article imports, that if the King refuses the Alternative, the States and their Allies shall join to hinder the pushing of his Conquests farther. When I told this to the *Sieur de Wit* six days since, he answer'd me, that he refus'd to couch that Article in the Treaty, tho' *Temple* press'd it very hard; but that 'twas true that it was in the secret Articles, because it should not appear in publick, and that 'tis of no validity, since the King contents himself with the Alternative, and has promis'd it also to the States by his last Letter.

I reply'd, that in the Terms in which the Articles of the Treaty are couch'd, the King may continue firm to the Alternative, the *Spaniards* refusing it, and yet have on their side all the Advantages of the Treaty, since the States will oblige his Majesty to attempt nothing by the force of his Arms on *Flanders*, nor even receive the Places which would voluntarily surrender to him; which would leave room for the *Spaniards* to refuse the Alternative, in hopes of embroiling the King with *England* and the States on that bare Article, and which cannot agree, as I told him at first, when he communicated the Treaty to me; to which I added, that his Majesty would have reason to be surpriz'd that he should be the Author of such a Treaty, after the Obligations which he told me himself, he had in particular to his Majesty; that his Procedure with me, which reflected on his Majesty, left room to suspect the good Intentions of the States and his own, and that so much the rather, because in the Project which he deliver'd some time since of a League, this Article was couch'd in the same manner that it is at present in the secret Articles: And when I told him that 'twas offensive

five to the King, he assur'd me on the part of the States, that they should give his Majesty a Writing, by which they should assure him, that tho' he was the Refuser, the States would not esteem him as such, nor turn their Arms against him; I return'd, that I did not see the same in the said Article, but only that if the King refus'd the Alternative, as that might be, by Proposals being made to him which his Majesty had never consented to, it appear'd clearly by this secret Article, that the States and their Allies would turn their Arms against his Majesty; I added several other Particulars of equal force with these, to which he had no good Answer to make; his Reply was, that the Effects would justify the good Intentions of the States and his own, that when he promis'd on the part of the States a Writing, by which they would assure his Majesty that they would not esteem him as Refuser, they had not at that time the King's Assurances, which they afterwards had, that he would content himself with the Alternative; so that this Accident is no longer to be heard, since they are assur'd that the King will do it, and that they are resolv'd to force the *Spaniards* to it, which they will do with all their Forces, which are not so few that they shan't enter into the Field with twenty thousand Foot, and five thousand Horse, and to that Number will be join'd a Body of *English* Infantry, the said States not doubting but they shall be in a Condition to march to *Brussels*, to force the *Spaniards* to accept the Conditions which the King offers.

He then told me, that Monsieur *van Benningen* having Order from the States to give his Majesty all the Securities which he shall desire; and as the States and the *English* will effectually break with the *Spaniards* in case of Refusal, and vigorously attack them in the Heart of their Country, they hope that his Majesty would please to have so much Goodness for them, as not to interrupt them in the good Design which they have of gaining for him the Alternative: That if notwithstanding

withstanding their Offer, his Majesty will act with his Army in *Flanders*, that will be the way to make an intestine Conquest of it, which is against their Interests, and which will be sufficient to carry them to Extremities, which they would endeavour to avoid as much as possible. I desir'd of him a Copy of the secret Articles of his Treaty with *England*, which he refus'd, alledging to me the wretched Reason, that he had taken an Oath not to deliver them to any Person; I answer'd him, that the King would get them by other ways, without being oblig'd to him for them.

As for what you order'd me to tell him from you, that you know that *England* and *Sweden* don't in good earnest wish the Peace: He answer'd me, that as soon as he should discern that, he could assure me that the States would oblige them to explain themselves on that Point, and to make good the Engagements which they had entred into with us; and that he would tell me that the States would act so vigorously against the *Spaniards*, that his Majesty should find that they have done nothing otherwise than with a good Design, and to make good to his Majesty the Satisfaction which he desires. That as for their Ambassador in *Spain*, he owns that he is wholly a *Spaniard*, and that he intended to send him a resolute Dispatch for the Council of *Spain*, which should contain the decisive Terms of yielding to the King the Alternative, or that the States would break with them in case of Refusal; that this would prove more effectual than the sending of a Person on purpose; who could not so expeditiously express the Intentions of the States, as their Letter, which could not be alter'd by the *Spanish* Inclination of their Ambassador, who has nothing to do but deliver it, and conform himself to its Contents. The States-Deputies at *Brussels* write, that they have had a Conference which lasted four Hours with *Castel Rodrigo*, to whom they declar'd the Intentions of the States on the Rupture, in case of the Refusal of the Alternative; he answer'd them, that he had not Power to

to determine an Affair of such great Importance, that he would advise the Court of *Spain* of it, and that he would send a Subdelegate to *Aix*, with Power to treat with the Person which the King should send. The Deputies write, that he is very angry with *France*, for having broken with them, contrary to the Publick Faith of Treaties. They hint, that they don't believe that *Castel Rodrigo* can refuse the Alternative, considering how little prepar'd they are to defend themselves in *Flanders*.

Monfieur *Wits* has been three days at the *Hague*, and been sworn Field Marshal General: Prince *Maurice* treated him Yesterday, at which Entertainment were present the Prince of *Orange*, Monsieur *de Wit*, and the Principal Officers. Monsieur *van Zuylichem* is gone into the Country on his Master's Affairs, and will not fail to speak to him on our Part, pursuant to your Order on the Affair of the Bishop of *Orange*; nor shall my Sollicitations be wanting, to put the end to it which both you and he desire. Mons. *van Beuningen* set out four days past without Equipage, in order to travel the more expeditiously: He shews an earnest desire of Peace, and will be impatient to return to enjoy the Post of Regent Burgomaster of *Amsterdam*, which is reserv'd for him at his return: He seems to me to have an Opinion of you, whence I doubt not but you will rectify all that is pass'd here, and that you will reflect on the Advantage which the King will draw from the Conclusion of the Peace with the Alternative; for as for the ill Proceedings of these People here, there is sufficient ground to make them doubly and certainly feel their Effects when the Peace is made. I know their Weakness as well as any Man, and on what side they are to be taken, when the King pleases; but this is not the time. I have not mention'd the Proceedings of the *Engliss* you must know better than I what is pass'd there.

Monfieur *de Wit* told me, that the States had us'd their Endeavours to gain the Elector of *Brandenburg*.

the House of *Brunswick*, and the Princes of the *Rhine*, and engage them to fall in with their Sentiments of contenting the King on the head of the *Alternative*; and that as they united together for no other reason than to compass this end, he thought his Majesty would do well to manage Affairs on his side to the same end.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: February 17, 1668.*

I Receiv'd your Dispatches of the Second. Methinks Monsieur *van Beuningen* very much retards his Departure, and yet we are press'd in time; but he will come soon enough, provided that he brings with him sufficient Evidences to satisfy the King with regard to the States Conduct: He himself, and Monsieur *de Wit*, having frequently given their Word, you may agree with them on that Subject, assuring them, that if the States will be reasonable, they shall be equally satisfied on the procedure of his Majesty, who sincerely wishes Peace, and whose only Difficulty is that of granting such Points as might the more retard it on the *Spaniards* side.

Besançon and *Salins* were seiz'd before the Arrival of his Majesty, who is at present engag'd in the Siege of *Dole*. If that Place be taken, as I hope it will, and *Grey* also afterwards, the King will be in possession of the whole Province, which the *Spaniards* in that case ought not any longer to make any such difficulty to yield up for the sake of Peace; and then the Dispute will no longer turn on any thing besides *Cambray*, *Aire* and *St. Omer*, which the King will not be in Possession of; and we are to see whether our Enemies prefer these three Places, which are of no importance to them, to the receiving in exchange *Charleroy*, *a' Ennoly*, *Tournay*, *l' Isle*, *Courtray*, *Oudenard*, *Aeth*, *Binche*, and *Fort Vendernac*, lately taken; that is, to give us
barely

barely enough to cover our Frontiers, and send us back into *France* from the Heart of their Country, which we are entred. I am sure that if Monsieur *de Wis* reflects on this, he will find that nothing could ever be done, which tends more to the advancement of Peace, than the Military Expedition which the King has resolv'd on in spite of all the rigour of the Season.

I have just receiv'd Advice from *Brussels*, and that from a good Hand, that in the Paper which the States Deputies presented to the Marquis of *Castel-Rodrigo*, there is an Article which proposes the Truce which the King offer'd him to the end of *March*, and presses the Marquis to accept it.

If this is true, as I can't doubt but it is, I don't know how Monsieur *de Wis* will defend to you his not having in this Particular an ill Intention against us, having as it were given room to the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* to accept the Truce in a time in which his Majesty was wholly disengag'd, with regard to all the Princes of *Europe*, from the Offer which he made, after having seen that the *Spaniards* have always slighted it, and yet the States renew it, as being still in Force, when they know that his Majesty is march'd on a Military Expedition; to the end, as it seems to me, that the said Marquis consenting to it at present, they may throw on his Majesty a sort of Breach of his Promise, if he should refuse to consent to it, as he most certainly will: 'Tis also to be consider'd, that his Majesty never offer'd a Truce, absolutely speaking, as the said Paper does, but a suspension of any Attempts on the fortified Towns, which is a very different thing: In the second Place, that the King propos'd it from *September*, and the States talk of it on the eighth of *February* to our Enemies, when they have publickly ridicul'd it for five Months; and we have the Copy of *Castel Rodrigo's* Answer long since made to the Elector of *Collen*, in which he mentions it in rallying Terms, as an Offer which might be made in *Turkey*, and concludes, that they have no occasion to receive by Favour, Agreement or Interpo-

from a Subscription which God himself and the Wint-
ter had made, and ever after could not dispute them off.
I own to you, that this way of proceeding does not
make me have any good Opinion of what Monsieur
des Bouteilles will bring in.

In the King's absence I could not do any thing
more with regard to the Letter which you wrote to
his Majesty, concerning the Resolution which you
desire, than confer with Monsieur le Tellier, with
whom I am his Majesty would have advis'd, if he
had been here; and he thinks it proper that I
write to you, that his Opinion would be that
you should be assist'd as much as he can, but that in
order to the taking of the Resolution which you
desire, 'tis indispensably necessary to see the Resolu-
tions of which you complain, the Tenor of which
wou'd point out the Measures proper to be taken to
help you; that the new Resolution which you ask can-
not be expedited in his Majesty's Absence, and that at
his Arrival it would be proper to send to us those of
which you complain, with a particular of the whole
Affair, that his Majesty may with due Information
order the Resolution which you desire.

After my Letter was written, two particular Cou-
riers, one dispatch'd by the Marquis de Villeroy, and
the other from Dyon, bring us the News of the taking
of *Dole* on the 30th, after a Lodgment made on the
Half-Moon the Night before, in which three hundred
Soldiers were kill'd, six Captains of Foot wounded,
and the Chevalier de Fourilles kill'd; and that imme-
diately afterwards his Majesty march'd to take *Grey*,
the only Place remaining to the *Spaniards* in that Pro-
vince, of which he will be peaceably put in Possession
in less than ten Days time, in a very rigorous Season.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: February 23, 1668.

I Learn, Sir, with great Joy, from your Dispatch of the 17th of this Instant, the good News of the taking of *Dole, Salins* and *Besançon*, and that nothing remains but *Grey*, to which the King marches in Person. I have imparted this happy Success to the States, who deputed Monsieur *de Wit* to me, to express the Joy which this Conquest gave them, hoping that 'twill advance the Peace, by convincing the *Spaniards* in what necessity they are of speedily agreeing to the Alternative. I then spoke to him concerning what is mention'd in your Dispatch of the Proposal made by the States Deputies to *Castel Rodrigo*, of a Suspension of Arms 'till the end of *March*, as if the King consented to it: I told him, that he well knew that his Majesty disengag'd himself from his Word above six Weeks past; that he had given Advice of it to the Princes of the Empire, and that I my self had told it him from the King, to the end that he might not be surpriz'd if any Expedition of War happen'd; that the King could not be charg'd with breach of Promise; that I had reason to complain, that the States Deputies had not express'd the Suspension of Arms in the form in which it was propos'd by the King, which was a Suspension of all Attempts on the strong Places, which is something very different; that this, join'd with the unkindness with which he refus'd me a Copy of the secret Articles, of which I know the Contents, on the Rupture which the States are oblig'd to with the King, in case of his Refusal of the Alternative, to which they oblige him on the Renunciation, and on the point of *Portugal*; that this whole Procedure gave me an ill Opinion of the Success of Monsieur *van Benningen's* Journey. He answer'd me, that 'twas true that their Deputies had order to propose a Suspension of Arms to *Castel Rodrigo* 'till the end

of *March*, but that they did not say that the King consented to it; so that however that Suspension was accepted by *Casal Rodrigo*, 'twould not bind the King to any thing, nor could he be tax'd by any Person with breaking his Word, whatever Expedition he should undertake, because he has not promis'd what we ask; but that 'tis a Mediator's Business to dispose Affairs in such manner that they may succeed. So that the States Design was, if practicable, to get the Suspension of Arms accepted till the End of *March*, if they could not till the End of *May*, and obtain the Alternative, not doubting but that if the States and the King of *England* together could dispose the *Spaniards* to proceed so far, the King would have Complaisance enough for the sake of certain Peace, to yield to the Entreaties of the Allies, to admit the Suspension of Arms in the Form which *Monsieur van Benningen* should ask it, and to prolong it to *May*; and so much the rather, because the mention'd *van Benningen* has Order to give his Majesty all the Securities which he shall desire, to engage to him the Peace on the same Conditions of the Alternative.

As for my reiterated Complaint of concealing the Secret Articles, and not giving me a Copy of them, he also told me, that the King was not at all prejudic'd in all that was done; that the King of *England* would not sign the Treaty, unless the States were before-hand Guarantees that the King should accept the Alternative; that all Guarantees are express'd in the same manner as in this Case; that the States would not insert them in the Treaty, because known to the whole World; and that these Conditions might meet with Interpretations in publick, which might destroy the good Understanding which is betwixt the King and the States, but that being couch'd only in a secret Article, serving to the Guarantee of what can never happen, since they are assur'd that the King desires the Alternative, and that they had taken an Oath not to shew them, he did not well comprehend why I complain'd of his Procedure: He added, That the other Points contain'd in the

Secret.

Secret Articles, which are the Renunciation, and the *Portuguese* Treaty, are couch'd in the very Terms of the Conference, which he (*de Wit*) had with Prince *William* of *Furstemburg*, of which he sent you a Project whilst at the *Hague*; he then pray'd me to assure you, that his Intentions are very good, that the Effects will shew them to be so, and gave me the Copy of *Castel Rodrigo's* Letter to the States, and the Extract of that of their Deputies. After the first Conference, I remark'd to him, as you rightly concluded, what *Castel Rodrigo* would do, since he answers as if the King had accepted the Suspension of Arms, and that he will not fail to make use of it, as tho' his Majesty had broken his Word; and that he even answers in a different manner from that which the Deputies write, they spake to him; and that I thought 'twould be proper to send new Orders to the Deputies, to tell *Castel Rodrigo*, that finding that he had not comprehended the Intentions of their Masters, and that he makes use of them in his Letter as Equivocal Terms, they have Order to tell him, That he is speedily to resolve to accept the Alternative, or prepare himself for the States and *England* breaking with the King of *Spain*. I added to him, That Sir *William Temple* having exchang'd the Ratifications, and sign'd the Treaty of Commerce, separate from the defensive Treaty, had nothing more to do at the *Hague*; that the King of *England* being well-intention'd towards the Peace, and engag'd to the States, 'twas time for him to use the same Endeavours, and make the same Declarations to *Castel Rodrigo*, which the States should make by their Deputies; and this would be a Means to determine whether the King of *England* is for the Promotion of the Peace, and the States to undeceive themselves, if the Conduct of the said King was not according to his Promise.

The *Sieur de Wit* approv'd my Sentiments, and pray'd me to speak to the Deputies of *Holland*, which reside at the *Hague*, and that he would act on his Side with the same Design. 'Tis impossible to do better than they

have done. They yesterday brought their Opinion on the Part of the Province of *Holland* to the States-General, that 'twas necessary to order their Deputies at *Brussels* to represent to *Castel Rodrigo*, that his Letter was not clearly express'd; that he must resolve speedily to accept the Alternative, or they would break with the King of *Spain*; and press Sir *William Temple* to set out immediately for *Brussels*, to signify to *Castel Rodrigo*, that the King of *England* would break with *Spain*, if he did not accept the Alternative. The States-General conform'd to the Opinion of *Holland*, and Monsieur *de Wic* went yesterday from them to Sir *William Temple*, to pray him to go for *Brussels*, and act vigorously on the Part of his Master on this Occasion. He answer'd him, That he would do it, that he had receiv'd an express Order to that purpose; and to hasten his Journey, the States have order'd him a Yacht as far as *Amwerp*, and he went Yesterday-noon with a Courier which the States dispatch'd to their Deputies at *Brussels*, with Order to speak to *Castel Rodrigo*, as I have above observ'd.

You will see the Request which the States made me to obtain the King's Pass for a Courier which *Castel Rodrigo* is to send to *Spain*, to obtain a quick Resolution on all these Affairs; Monsieur *van Benningen* is to speak to you of it.

I must tell you, that 'twas not possible to act better than *Holland* has done. On the Advice which you gave me, that *England* and *Sweden* were not too well inclin'd towards the Peace, I thought it my Duty to impart it in Confidence to the Deputies of the Cities, to the end that they may be prepar'd to act right, in case any thing of this Nature occurs. They have all been with me, and assur'd me, that as soon as they discern the Case is bias'd, or from its Promise of an Alternative, *Holland* will break all, and will be, other

tell you, that Monsieur *de Wit* himself was surpriz'd to see with what Warmth and Expedition *Holland* brought its Opinion to the States-General, concerning the sending of new Orders to their Deputies, and obliging Sir *William Temple* to go to *Brussels*.

Monsieur *de Wit* told me in Confidence, that he had learn'd from the Baron *de Brigueis*, that the *Spaniards* would accept the Alternative of the Places which his Majesty has conquer'd, and that they would never consent to exchange *Cambray*, *Aire* and *Saint Omer*; and that perceiving that the Neighbourhood of the King was what gave the greatest Umbrage to the States, they not being very willing to have such a potent Monarch their Neighbour, and that 'twere to be wish'd that there was a Barrier betwixt them, which would secure the Ease of their Minds, it occur'd to his Thoughts; that the *Spaniards* making Choice of the Alternative of the Places conquer'd the last Campaign, as the King expresses himself in his Project, if the King should agree to keep the *Franche Comte*, that would be of greater Importance to *France*, than those Places; and would also give very great Satisfaction to the States, and all People, to hear of such a Change, and push on their nearer Alliance with *France*, and rid them of all the Jealousies to which the Populace were inclin'd; that if the King was dispos'd to hearken to it, he would use his best Endeavours to act so vigorously on the Side of the *Spaniards*, that they should scarce be able to excuse themselves, but that he would not make any Attempt without first knowing the King's Sentiments on this Head; that when he consider'd the Situation of the *Franche Comte*, contiguous to *Burgundy*, and affording a easy Communication with *Alsace*, it render'd his Conquest invaluable, as also the keeping of *l'Isle*, *Dun*, *Armen*, *ignes* and *Furnes*, is securing an immense and whole Frontier. I answer'd him, That the *Franche Comte* was conquer'd by the *Ross* which the made to the Offers of Peace, and which

At the Moment which I am writing to you, we expect our Majesty to day or to morrow: *Gray* is surrounded as well as *Dain*, as is also *Joux*, which is a small Passage for Waggon's out of the *Franché Comté* into *Suabonia*. In short, a Province in which are 36 walled Cities, and amongst them four fortified Places, and several Castles, has been conquer'd by his Majesty, in the Month of February, in Fifteen Days; for his Arms enter'd on the fourth, and his Majesty enter'd *Gray* on the nineteenth, which was the last Place which remain'd untaken, and all this without the Cannon once playing, or having either so much as Time or Occasion to raise a Battery. The King may as peaceably enjoy this Country as *Saint Denis*. *Joux*, to which the Marquis *d'Yvetot*, Governor of the Country, was retir'd, was attack'd by Monsieur *de Neij*, with 94 Foot, and 20 Horse; and the mention'd *Sieur de Neij* oblig'd him to capitulate and surrender himself; and to speak Truth, all that has happen'd surpasses Imagination, and Heaven plainly discovers that it visibly protects the just Cause and good Intentions of our Master.

Our Libel-maker, Monsieur *de l'Isola*, is at present in our Hands, as far as concerns his Post, and all his Estate in the *Franché Comté*. He formerly encounter'd us on the second Alternative, alledging, that *Spain* neither ought nor could ever resolve to yield up a whole Province which it had not lost. God and the King have just maim'd the Force of his Argument, and the whole Peace till the End of *March* no longer sticks at any thing but *Cambray*, *Aire* and *Saint Omer*, for which three Places we have double in Value, and quadruple in Situation to restore. No Person will deny this Truth, when he considers, that till the End of *March*, the King offers to restore *Charleroy* demolish'd, *Aeth*, *Oudenard*, *Tournay*, *l'Isle*, *Armentiers* and *Courtray*; that is to say, the Places which we possess in the Entrails of their Country, to suffer our selves to be return'd back to our bare Frontiers; for *Cambray* does us no Service, but cover us a little better, whilst they continue shel-

shelter'd on their Side by *Bouchain, Valenciennes, Conde, Saint Gillain* and *Mons*; and for *Air* and *Saint Omer*, they only round us, and save from Contributions the *Boulonnois* and *Picardy*, in case of War, since we have already all the Places which lie more forward in their Country, as *Belline* and *Saint Venant*. When I wrote, to you that *England* and *Sweden* did not in earnest wish the Peace, there must be a Distinction made on that Point. 'Tis certain, that *England* would be glad to see the War continue betwixt *France* and *Spain*, provided that it took no Side; and the Reasons are easie to be guess'd; but if she must enter into the Circle, and dance as well as we, I believe she would rather we should agree: And when *Monfieur de Wit* shall act on these two Principles, I believe he will not be mistaken, nor run any Risque of taking false Measures; as on the contrary, I believe he will take very false ones, if his Masters resolving to declare themselves openly against the King, he expects great things from *England*, and does not resolve to support the *Spaniards* solely with his Masters Forces and Mony.

Memorial of the Count D'Estades presented to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: February 27, 1668.

THE Count D'Estades, Ambassador Extraordinary, of *France*, represents to your Lordships, That having by his very ample Memorial of the 23d of *January* last, display'd the Vexations exercis'd by the *West-India* Company of this State, against the Right of that of *France*, by a second Seizure which it made on the Ship the *Europe*, when it had just been discharg'd of a former by the Sentences of the Court of *Holland* and the High Council, on which it pleas'd them to order,

tha

• that the said Memorial should be communicated to the
 • said Company, and they should declare the Causes
 • and Reasons of this second Seizure; which they have
 • done, and the Affair was referr'd to Monsieur *van*
 • *Ommereu*; on the Report of whom your Lordships
 • referr'd it to the Gentlemen of the High Council;
 • and on their Answer, it came again before the ordinary
 • Court of Justice of *Amsterdam*, which is the Admir-
 • ralty of the said City, by their Resolution of the 23d
 • of this Month hereunto annex'd. But as the Reason
 • of this second Seizure was first of all to obtain the
 • Dues of Convoy, which it pretends on Account of the
 • Admiralty of *Amsterdam* in these Voyages; which
 • Seizure it made by its own private Authority, with-
 • out asking leave of any Judge, as the Copy hereunto
 • annex'd proves. The Company of *France*, in order
 • to avoid paying twice the said Duty of Convoy, ad-
 • dress'd its self to the Admiralty, where at her Re-
 • turn the Ship had taken her Passports and Permissi-
 • ons of unlading, hereunto annex'd, to have its Con-
 • sent to pay it to the said Company; which seeing that
 • it was ill founded, and that when the said Vessel set
 • sail, it paid to the Admiralty the said Duty of Con-
 • voy, according to the Acquittances hereunto join'd,
 • without its having contradicted it, it devis'd the de-
 • manding a Right of Acknowledgment due only, pur-
 • suant to the Intention of the *Placart* of your Lord-
 • ships of the Year 1648, from private Persons, and
 • not from a Company incorporated by a Sovereign, and
 • which has the same Charters, Privileges and Bounds
 • with that of your Lordships, which it pretends to be
 • due to it, and to which it would subject that of *France*,
 • by Vertue of the 12th Article of the said *Placart* of
 • 1648. And that the Explication of the said *Placart*
 • produces the Decision of the said Company's Preten-
 • sion: The said Ambassador has express Orders from
 • the King his Master, to pray your Lordships, that
 • you your selves would please to give this Explication,
 • and that so much the rather, because the Company
 of

of this State having already enter'd its Action on this Dispute before the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, those of that College have excus'd themselves from taking Cognisance of it, alledging, that the Question turning on the Explication of a *Placart*, it must be the Sovereign its self which gives it, when any Difficulty occurs, and no other Power. Add to this, That this Reference to the Admiralty seems to favour the Cavillings of that Company, which by Appeals, or other Ways, carries on, without End, an Affair which may easily be terminated, and which being of the Nature which it is, ought, in real Justice, be expeditiously dispatch'd, instead of being delay'd, as it has been for five whole Months. The said Ambassador has nothing more to say on this Subject to your Lordships than what is contain'd in his above-mention'd Memorial of the 23^d of *January*, and in the present he thinks himself oblig'd only, both for the Service of the King his Master, and even that of your Lordships, to represent to them as sensibly as 'tis possible, that his Majesty looks on all the Delays given to this Affair as a design'd Piece of ill Treatment, with which he is very angry; on which your Lordships may make your serious Reflections, and apply, to it such Remedies as your Prudence shall suggest, which are easy; the Question barely turning on the Article of the above-mention'd *Placart* made by your Lordships, and which cannot be done in the ordinary Course of Justice, it being an Act proper to the Sovereign to explain the Law which it made; and whether your Lordships understand it, that another Company which has the same *Ostroys* and Limits with theirs, which has not at all traded in the particular Countries of your Lordships, should pay a Duty of Acknowledgment as a private Person. Given at the *Hague* the 27th of *February*, 1668.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne : March 1, 1668.

I Have just receiv'd your Dispatch of the 24th of the last Month, which informs us of the King's Return in good Health, and the entire Conquest of the *Franche Comte* by his Majesty, he having successfully finish'd the Reduction of *Gray* and *Joux*, which were the only fortify'd Places which remain'd unconquer'd in this Province. Tho' Monsieur *de Wit* came to compliment me on it from the States, I can yet scarce believe, by all that pass'd, that their Joy is so great. Monsieur *van Benningen* being now arriv'd, you will soon judge by his Discourse, if there be any room to hope for Peace: But, in case of War, be assur'd, Sir, that the States will not be in a Posture to get their Army into the Field to act these three Months; they may send separate Bodies into the neighbouring Towns of *Antwerp*, *Bruges* and *Ghent*, but not an Army to keep the Field, and oppose the King's Designs; they have commanded three Regiments of Infantry, and one of Cavalry, to reinforce the Garrison of *Mastricht*.

Temple has written to Monsieur *de Wit*, from *Antwerp*, where *Castel Rodrigo* was, to entreat him to come as far as *Breda*; and that the said *Castel Rodrigo* desir'd to speak with him, and that he assur'd him on his Part, that he would use all possible Endeavours to facilitate the Conclusion of the Peace; and that the better to evidence his Design, he would himself come within two Leagues of *Breda* to confer with him. The said *Sieur de Wit* answer'd, That he could not quit the Affairs of his Post, that the Deputies of the States which are with him will hear what he has to say to him, and answer it, being authoriz'd by the States; but that the best Advice that he could give him, was to resolve speedily to agree to the Alternative, or to expect to see the States Army enter *Flanders* in an hostile manner. He also gave me

me an Extract of the Letter which the Deputies have sent, by which we observe, that *Castel Rodrigo* is not without Hopes to see the League turn against the King; on which Monsieur *de Wit* told me, that they would soon convince him of the contrary, but the Effects must shew it. None of the propos'd Levies^d are made here, nor have they even sent to the Dukes of *Brunswick*, to desire of them the Six thousand Men, according to the Advice of the Council of State; and it seems to me, that they wait News from Monsieur *van Beuningen* before they give out their Money; but however it happens, they will not be able in three Months to be ready for Action.

The Admiralties prepare the 48 Ships which are to guard the Sea, pursuant to the Treaty concluded with the *English*; Admiral *van Gent* is to command them: The Ship which he will go on Board of is not above 60 Guns, call'd the *Mirror*; they chuse the lightest Vessels, and the best Sailors.

You may be assur'd, Sir, that neither Monsieur *de Wit*, nor any other Person, shall see any Copies of your Dispatches; 'tis enough to have experienc'd the small Safety there is in entrusting such things to him, ever to do it again. I don't believe that he will find all the Advantage which he imagins, in this Treaty: Several Deputies of the Cities of *Holland* complain, that they knew nothing of the Secret Articles, and that their Suspicions did not understand that any thing was to be done against *France*. As far as I can judge, the Province of *Holland* is very much inclin'd in Favour of the King's Interests; 'tis that Province which presses the most to oblige *Castel Rodrigo* to explain himself clearly on the Acceptation of the Alternative, and in case of Refusal to break with *Spain*. The Advices from *Brussels* brings, That Don *Juan* is arriv'd in *England*, and that he will quickly be in *Flanders*; that the Peace is concluded betwixt the King of *Spain* and the King of *Portugal*, by the Mediation of the King of *England*, who, to that

have done. They yesterday brought their Opinion on the Part of the Province of *Holland* to the States-General, that 'twas necessary to order their Deputies at *Brussels* to represent to *Castel Rodrigo*, that his Letter was not clearly express'd; that he must resolve speedily to accept the Alternative, or they would break with the King of *Spain*; and press Sir *William Temple* to set out immediately for *Brussels*, to signify to *Castel Rodrigo*, that the King of *England* would break with *Spain*, if he did not accept the Alternative. The States-General conform'd to the Opinion of *Holland*, and Monsieur *de Wit* went yesterday from them to Sir *William Temple*, to pray him to go for *Brussels*, and act vigorously on the Part of his Master on this Occasion. He answer'd him, That he would do it, that he had receiv'd an express Order to that purpose; and to hasten his Journey, the States have order'd him a Yacht as far as *Antwerp*, and he went Yesterday-noon with a Courier which the States dispatch'd to their Deputies at *Brussels*, with Order to speak to *Castel Rodrigo*, as I have above observ'd.

You will see the Request which the States made me to obtain the King's Pass for a Courier which *Castel Rodrigo* is to send to *Spain*, to obtain a quick Resolution on all these Affairs; Monsieur *van Benningen* is to speak to you of it.

I must tell you, that 'twas not possible to act better than *Holland* has done. On the Advice which you gave me, that *England* and *Sweden* were not too well inclin'd towards the Peace, I thought it my Duty to impart it in Confidence to the Deputies of the Cities, to the end that they may be prepar'd to act right, in case any thing of this Nature occurs. They have all been with me, and assur'd me, that as soon as they discern that *England* is bias'd, and swerves from its Promise of gaining the Alternative for the King, *Holland* will be the first to break all Measures with *England*; and that its Opinion will be to maintain always, and with preference to all other Considerations, the King's Friendship; and I must
tell

tell you, that Monsieur *de Wit* himself was surpriz'd to see with what Warmth and Expedition *Holland* brought its Opinion to the States-General, concerning the sending of new Orders to their Deputies, and obliging Sir *William Temple* to go to *Brussels*.

Monsieur *de Wit* told me in Confidence, that he had learn'd from the Baron *de Brigueis*, that the *Spaniards* would accept the Alternative of the Places which his Majesty has conquer'd, and that they would never consent to exchange *Cambray*, *Aire* and *Saint Omer*; and that perceiving that the Neighbourhood of the King was what gave the greatest Umbrage to the States, they not being very willing to have such a potent Monarch their Neighbour, and that 'twere to be wish'd that there was a Barrier betwixt them, which would secure the Ease of their Minds, it occur'd to his Thoughts; that the *Spaniards* making Choice of the Alternative of the Places conquer'd the last Campaign, as the King expresses himself in his Project, if the King should agree to keep the *Franche Comte*, that would be of greater Importance to *France*, than those Places; and would also give very great Satisfaction to the States, and all People, to hear of such a Change, and push on their nearer Alliance with *France*, and rid them of all the Jealousies to which the Populace were inclin'd; that if the King was dispos'd to hearken to it, he would use his best Endeavours to act so vigorously on the Side of the *Spaniards*, that they should scarce be able to excuse themselves, but that he would not make any Attempt without first knowing the King's Sentiments on this Head; that when he consider'd the Situation of the *Franche Comte*, contiguous to *Burgundy*, and affording an easie Communication with *Alsace*, it render'd his Conquest invaluable, as also the keeping of *l'Isle*, *Donay*, *Armentiers*, *Bergues* and *Furnes*, is securing an important and considerable Frontier. I answer'd him, That the *Franche Comte* was conquer'd by the Refusal which the *Spaniards* made to the Offers of Peace, which his Majesty tender'd in *September*, and which they laugh'd at; that

that I took the shortest way to the Accommodation to be to yield *Cambray, Aire* and *Saint Omer*, which are the three Places remaining in their Hands; and that this Alternative would be more easy to execute, and tend more to the removing of all the Jealousies which the States conceiv'd on account of the Neighbourhood of the King, and his great Power; that 'twas most for the Interest of the States to send us back into *France*, which would be done by the *Spaniards* yielding up to us *Cambray, Aire* and *Saint Omer*; and for those three Places we restore to them in exchange, *Charleroy, Douay, Tournay, l'Isle, Courtray, Oudenard, Aeth, Binches*, and the Fort of *Vandernat*. He answer'd me, That he should wish it, but that the *Spaniards* had rather give up the Alternative of the Places conquer'd the last Campaign; and the King having express'd himself by his last Letter, that whatever the King should take in the Expedition which he was about, should not make any Alteration in the Alternative, he thought that the Exchange which he propos'd would be more advantageous to the King, than to deliver up the *Franche Comte*, and keep his Conquests in *Flanders*.

Since the Opinion of the Council of State reported to the States-General, for the forming of the Levies of Twelve thousand Men, nothing has been resolv'd on; the Provinces have been engag'd in a Dispute concerning the sending of a Gentleman to the Dukes of *Brunswick*, to obtain Six thousand of their Troops: Several have been propos'd, but not any yet accepted; 'tis also thought, that the States will not find that Affair run very easily with those Princes, if they don't furnish Money for the raising of that Number of Men, the Design of the States being only to give them three Months Pay, and save the Levying-Money; nor are they at all farther advanc'd in raising their Thousand Dragoons; and as for the rest of their Troops, which are to make up the Number of Twelve thousand Men, if they don't take more vigorous Resolutions concerning them, than those which have hitherto appear'd, I don't believe that these
Troops

Troops will be ready against next Campaign. The Ambassage of Prince *Maurice* to the Emperor is little talk'd of at present. I know that Monsieur de *Beverning* is destin'd to go from the States to *Aix la Chapelle*.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades : February 24, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the sixteenth, which contains, on the one part, the very wretched Excuses which Monsieur de *Wis* made you; but on the other, the very good things which you said, provided that the Effect answer them; and for that we are necessarily to wait the Arrival of Monsieur *van Benningen*, and his explaining the Orders with which he is charg'd. What I can say before-hand, is, That I don't believe the King will be in Humour to suffer himself to be shav'd against the Grain by any whatever; his Intentions are sincere, resolute and constant for the Peace, the Conditions he desires moderate; and the whole is, that they be accepted in time, or that the *Spaniards* refusing them, the League lose no time to force them. I shall not have heard Monsieur *van Benningen* talk half an Hour, before I believe I shall be able to say, whether we shall have Peace or War: What is most considerable is, that probably we shall have nothing to fear from *Germany*, neither with regard to *Burgundy* or *Alsace*; for by the Conquest of the *Franche Comte*, all the Passag's from the *Lower* to the *Upper Rhyne* seem to me to be very well stopp'd; which being allow'd, we shall have the Princes Army at liberty to oppose those who would mischief us. The King desires, no less than if he had given you an express Order, that you never give any Extract of my Dispatches in the Place where you are, nor even of any one Article of them; and to say Truth, there is no great Pleasure in seeing them printed three days afterwards.

At the Moment which I am writing to you, we expect his Majesty to day or to morrow: *Gray* is surrendered as well as *Dole*, as is also *Foux*, which is a small Passage for Waggon's out of the *Franche Comte* into *Switzerland*. In short, a Province in which are 36 wall'd Cities, and amongst them four fortify'd Places, and several Castles, has been conquer'd by his Majesty, in the Month of *February*, in Fifteen Days; for his Arms entred on the fourth, and his Majesty entred *Gray* on the nineteenth, which was the last Place which remain'd untaken, and all this without the Cannon once playing, or having either so much as Time or Occasion to raise a Battery. The King may as peaceably enjoy this Country as *Saint Denis*. *Foux*, to which the Marquis *d'Yenne*, Governor of the Country, was retir'd, was attack'd by Monsieur *de Noisy*, with 94 Foot, and 20 Horse; and the mention'd *Sieur de Noisy* oblig'd him to capitulate and surrender himself; and to speak Truth, all that has happen'd surpasses Imagination, and Heaven plainly discovers that it visibly protects the just Cause and good Intentions of our Master.

Our Libel-maker, Monsieur *de l'Isle*, is at present in our Hands, as far as concerns his Post, and all his Estate in the *Franche Comte*. He formerly encounter'd us on the second Alternative, alledging, that *Spain* neither ought nor could ever resolve to yield up a whole Province which it had not lost. God and the King have just main'd the Force of his Argument, and the whole Peace till the End of *March* no longer sticks at any thing but *Cambrai*, *Aire* and *Saint Omer*, for which three Places we have double in Value, and quadruple in Situation to restore. No Person will deny this Truth, when he considers, that till the End of *March*, the King offers to restore *Charleroy* demolish'd, *Aeth*, *On-denard*, *Tournay*, *l'Isle*, *Armentiers* and *Courtray*; that is to say, the Places which we possess in the Entrails of their Country, to suffer our selves to be return'd back to our bare Frontiers; for *Cambrai* does us no Service, but cover us a little better, whilst they continue shel-

shelter'd on their Side by *Bouchain, Valenciennes, Conde, Saint Gillain and Mons*; and for *Air and Saint Omer*, they only round us, and save from Contributions the *Boulonnois and Picardy*, in case of War, since we have already all the Places which lie more forward in their Country, as *Belline and Saint Venant*. When I wrote, to you that *England and Sweden* did not in earnest wish the Peace, there must be a Distinction made on that Point. 'Tis certain, that *England* would be glad to see the War continue betwixt *France and Spain*, provided that it took no Side; and the Reasons are easie to be guess'd; but if she must enter into the Circle, and dance as well as we, I believe she would rather we should agree: And when *Monsieur de Wit* shall act on these two Principles, I believe he will not be mistaken, nor run any Risque of taking false Measures; as on the contrary, I believe he will take very false ones, if his Masters resolving to declare themselves openly against the King, he expects great things from *England*, and does not resolve to support the *Spaniards* solely with his Masters Forces and Mony.

Memorial of the Count D'Estades presented to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: February 27, 1668.

THE Count D'Estades, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, represents to your Lordships, That having by his very ample Memorial of the 23d of *January* last, display'd the Vexations exercis'd by the *West-India* Company of this State, against the Right of that of *France*, by a second Seizure which it made on the Ship the *Europe*, when it had just been discharg'd of a former by the Sentences of the Court of *Holland* and the High Council, on which it pleas'd them to order, that

• that the said Memorial should be communicated to the
• said Company, and they should declare the Causes
• and Reasons of this second Seizure; which they have
• done, and the Affair was referr'd to Monsieur *van*
• *Ommereu*; on the Report of whom your Lordships
• referr'd it to the Gentlemen of the High Council;
• and on their Answer, it came again before the ordinary
• Court of Justice of *Amsterdam*, which is the Admir-
• ralty of the said City, by their Resolution of the 23d
• of this Month hereunto annex'd. But as the Reason
• of this second Seizure was first of all to obtain the
• Dues of Convoy, which it pretends on Account of the
• Admiralty of *Amsterdam* in these Voyages; which
• Seizure it made by its own private Authority, with-
• out asking leave of any Judge, as the Copy hereunto
• annex'd proves. The Company of *France*, in order
• to avoid paying twice the said Duty of Convoy, ad-
• dress'd its self to the Admiralty, where at her Re-
• turn the Ship had taken her Passports and Permissi-
• ons of unlading, hereunto annex'd, to have its Con-
• sent to pay it to the said Company; which seeing that
• it was ill founded, and that when the said Vessel set
• sail, it paid to the Admiralty the said Duty of Con-
• voy, according to the Acquittances hereunto join'd,
• without its having contradicted it, it devis'd the de-
• manding a Right of Acknowledgment due only, pur-
• suant to the Intention of the *Placart* of your Lord-
• ships of the Year 1648, from private Persons, and
• not from a Company incorporated by a Sovereign, and
• which has the same Charters, Privileges and Bounds
• with that of your Lordships, which it pretends to be
• due to it, and to which it would subject that of *France*,
• by Vertue of the 12th Article of the said *Placart* of
• 1648. And that the Explication of the said *Placart*
• produces the Decision of the said Company's Preten-
• sion: The said Ambassador has express Orders from
• the King his Master, to pray your Lordships, that
• you your selves would please to give this Explication,
• and that so much the rather, because the Company
• of

of this State having already enter'd its Action on this Dispute before the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*, those of that College have excus'd themselves from taking Cognisance of it, alledging, that the Question turning on the Explication of a *Placart*, it must be the Sovereign its self which gives it, when any Difficulty occurs, and no other Power. Add to this, That this Reference to the Admiralty seems to favour the Cavillings of that Company, which by Appeals, or other Ways, carries on, without End, an Affair which may easily be terminated, and which being of the Nature which it is, ought, in real Justice, be expeditiously dispatch'd, instead of being delay'd, as it has been for five whole Months. The said Ambassador has nothing more to say on this Subject to your Lordships than what is contain'd in his above-mention'd Memorial of the 23d of *January*, and in the present he thinks himself oblig'd only, both for the Service of the King his Master, and even that of your Lordships, to represent to them as sensibly as 'tis possible, that his Majesty looks on all the Delays given to this Affair as a design'd Piece of ill Treatment, with which he is very angry; on which your Lordships may make your serious Reflections, and apply, to it such Remedies as your Prudence shall suggest, which are easy; the Question barely turning on the Article of the above-mention'd *Placart* made by your Lordships, and which cannot be done in the ordinary Course of Justice, it being an Act proper to the Sovereign to explain the Law which it made; and whether your Lordships understand it, that another Company which has the same *Ostroys* and Limits with theirs, which has not at all traded in the particular Countries of your Lordships, should pay a Duty of Acknowledgment as a private Person. Given at the *Hague* the 27th of *February*, 1668.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur
de Lionne : March 1, 1668.

I Have just receiv'd your Dispatch of the 24th of the last Month, which informs us of the King's Return in good Health, and the entire Conquest of the *Franche Comte* by his Majesty, he having successfully finish'd the Reduction of *Gray* and *Joux*, which were the only fortify'd Places which remain'd unconquer'd in this Province. Tho' Monsieur *de Wit* came to compliment me on it from the States, I can yet scarce believe, by all that pass'd, that their Joy is so great. Monsieur *van Beuningen* being now arriv'd, you will soon judge by his Discourse, if there be any room to hope for Peace: But, in case of War, be assur'd, Sir, that the States will not be in a Posture to get their Army into the Field to act these three Months; they may send separate Bodies into the neighbouring Towns of *Antwerp*, *Bruges* and *Ghent*, but not an Army to keep the Field, and oppose the King's Designs; they have commanded three Regiments of Infantry, and one of Cavalry, to reinforce the Garrison of *Maastricht*.

Temple has written to Monsieur *de Wit*, from *Antwerp*, where *Castel Rodrigo* was, to entreat him to come as far as *Breda*; and that the said *Castel Rodrigo* desir'd to speak with him, and that he assur'd him on his Part, that he would use all possible Endeavours to facilitate the Conclusion of the Peace; and that the better to evidence his Design, he would himself come within two Leagues of *Breda* to confer with him. The said *Sieur de Wit* answer'd, That he could not quit the Affairs of his Post, that the Deputies of the States which are with him will hear what he has to say to him, and answer it, being authoriz'd by the States; but that the best Advice that he could give him, was to resolve speedily to agree to the Alternative, or to expect to see the States Army enter *Flanders* in an hostile manner. He also gave me

me an Extract of the Letter which the Deputies have sent, by which we observe, that *Castel Rodrigo* is not without Hopes to see the League turn against the King; on which Monsieur *de Wit* told me, that they would soon convince him of the contrary, but the Effects must shew it. None of the propos'd Levies^s are made here, nor have they even sent to the Dukes of *Brunswick*, to desire of them the Six thousand Men, according to the Advice of the Council of State; and it seems to me, that they wait News from Monsieur *van Beuningen* before they give out their Mony; but however it happens, they will not be able in three Months to be ready for Action.

The Admiralties prepare the 48 Ships which are to guard the Sea, pursuant to the Treaty concluded with the *English*; Admiral *van Gent* is to command them: The Ship which he will go on Board of is not above 60 Guns, call'd the *Mirror*; they chuse the lightest Vessels, and the best Sailors.

You may be assur'd, Sir, that neither Monsieur *de Wit*, nor any other Person, shall see any Copies of your Dispatches; 'tis enough to have experienc'd the small Safety there is in entrusting such things to him, ever to do it again. I don't believe that he will find all the Advantage which he imagins, in this Treaty: Several Deputies of the Cities of *Holland* complain, that they knew nothing of the Secret Articles, and that their Superiors did not understand that any thing was to be done against *France*. As far as I can judge, the Province of *Holland* is very much inclin'd in Favour of the King's Interests; 'tis that Province which presses the most to oblige *Castel Rodrigo* to explain himself clearly on the Acceptation of the Alternative, and in case of Refusal to break with *Spain*. The Advices from *Brussels* bring, That Don *Juan* is arriv'd in *England*, and that he will quickly be in *Flanders*; that the Peace is concluded betwixt the King of *Spain* and the King of *Portugal*, by the Mediation of the King of *England*, who, to that

and, sent the Earl of *Sandwich* to *Lisbon*. I shall doubt the Truth of it, till confirm'd by our Dispatches.

The Merchants of *Amsterdam* are very much alarm'd at a Report which runs, That the King has order'd *Monsieur de la Roche* to search all the *Dutch* Ships which come from *Spanish* Ports: Not having heard of this Order, I answer'd them, That I knew nothing of it; but that I had seen practis'd here, that all the Ships which came out of *English* Ports were confiscated with their Merchandises, in the Admiralties; that 'twas necessary to read the Articles of the Treaty of 1662 to see what they contain'd on the Subject of Commerce.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Com
D'Estrades: March 1, 1668.*

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 23^d of the for
Month. The *Dutch* don't deal sincerely with you
and are willing to put you off with sorry Excuses;
when you have Order, with Justice, to complain,
the States Deputies to the Marquis of *Castel Ro*
propos'd to him a Truce, as tho' the King was still
senting to it, tho' he has disengag'd himself from that
mise long since; *Monsieur de Wit* answers you,
the said Deputies had not said, That the King wa
senting to it; and yet the very Words of the men
Article in the Paper which the Deputies gave to
Rodrigo, are as follow:

" And lastly, That the Arms on both Sides n
" produce any new Inconveniences, they hope
" the Prudence of your Excellence, that you will
" out any Delay, accept the Truce which h
" Christian Majesty propos'd on the eighteenth
" vember 1667, till the last of May 1668.
you to judge, after this, whether the mention'

de Wit could tell you, that their Deputies 'did not propose this Treaty to the Governor of *Flanders*, as tho' his Majesty at present consented to it, tho' they could not be ignorant that he had entirely disengag'd himself from his Offer, on the publick Refusal, and in Writing, which the said Marquiss made a Month past; and also that his Majesty was then in Person engag'd in a Military Expedition. The Day before yesterday I had two Hours Discourse with Monsieur *van Beningen*, he read me over very quick two secret Articles; one of which concerns the Affair of *Portugal*, and the other, the Point of the Renunciation; he would not read me the third, and I told him, that there was no need of it, because I knew the whole Tenor of it, which regarded what the Confederates were to do, in case that his Majesty should go off from the Terms of the two Alternatives. He press'd me to the Expedition of the King's Pass for a Courier which the Governor of *Flanders* would dispatch to *Madrid*; and already knowing the King's Pleasure on what you wrote to me, I told him, that I would expedite the Passport to him, and sent it him this Morning. As for the rest of our Discourse, or rather his, for I did nothing but hearken, I refer till you shall have learnt it from Monsieur *de Wit*, to whom I assure my self he'll not fail to give an Account. I told him only, as my private Opinion; without any Order from the King to say it to him, That I would have engag'd my Head for it, that the Peace would infallibly have been concluded on the Conditions of one of the two Alternatives, if the League at the *Hague* had not been made; but that this League having given the World a Prospect, which might make it judge, that all that the King had done only from his own Inclination, and to acquire the Glory of Moderation, which at present is the only thing which remains to be gotten, he would at present do it, as it were, by Force, for fear of the said League, which appear'd to me so hard to a Prince of the King's Humour, who prefers his Glory to all other Considerations, that I

could not say any more of it; and indeed I cannot sufficiently be surpriz'd, considering the Prudence of those engag'd in this Negotiation, that they did not, as it were, bury in the Secret Articles, as well as the third of the said Articles, all that might seem imperiously to prescribe a Law to the King, or the Conduct he is to chuse, that if he will not, that they will make him do it by force; as is exprels'd in the place where 'tis said, that his Majesty sha'l not any longer use his Arms in *Flanders*, nor even receive the Places which would surrender to him. The late King of *Sweden*, who was angry on a like Occasion, was never treated in this manner; for Monsieur de *Thou* continually imparted to his Minister all that pass'd at the *Hague*, when a Treaty was negotiating to oblige him to make Peace with the King of *Denmark*.

The King is not of Monsieur de *Wit*'s Opinion, that 'tis more advantageous to him to keep the *Franche Comte*, and restore in exchange, *Courtray*, *Oudenard*, *Tournay*, *Aeth* and *Charleroy*, in the Proposition of the first Alternative. 'Twould be superfluous for you to tell the Reasons, Monsieur de *Wit* himself sees them better than any Man; so that you are to pray him not to divulge this Thought to any Person whatsoever, because it may as well not succeed.

As for the rest, when the *Spaniards* say, that they will never yield up *Cambray*, *Aire* and *Saint Omer*, 'tis only a bare Pretext to do nothing; or 'tis to say, that they will keep them to disturb us; and in this case 'twould be just that we should keep also some others in the midst of their Entrails, to render them the like fourfold; to which end you see clearly, that the *Franche Comte* avails nothing: Places are less or more considerable to Princes for their Situation, and in that we leave you to judge which is the most advantageous to the King, the Situation of *Dole* and *Gray*, or that of *Courtray*, *Oudenard* and *Charleroy*.

Memorial presented by Messieurs van Beuningen and Trevor to the most Christian King: March 3, 1668.

THE under-sign'd Ambassador Extraordinary of the Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces*, and the Envoy Extraordinary of the King of *Great Britain*, are oblig'd to represent to his most Christian Majesty, that by the last Dispatches which came to them from *Antwerp*, they are inform'd that the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, on the Part of the King of *Spain* his Master, has consented to the Cessation of Arms for the Safety of the fortify'd Places, till the End of *March*, in the Form which his Majesty has been pleas'd to agree to it at the End of the last-year's Campaign; having declar'd, that he would make no Difficulty to promise that he will not attempt any thing on any strong Place of the *Spaniards* in the *Netherlands*, if they would reciprocally oblige themselves not to undertake any thing against his Majesty's strong Places, either those he was before in Possession of on this side, or those which he has conquer'd since the beginning of this War; and by reason that by this nothing is wanting to compleat this small Advance towards an Accommodation, but for his most Christian Majesty to cause to be expedited his necessary Orders to put in Execution his said Promise for the Safety of the said strong Places, his Majesty is most pressingly entreated to give this Mark of the Sincerity of his Intentions towards the said Accommodation. Drawn up at *Paris* the 3d of *March*, 1668.

C. van BEUNINGEN. TREVOR.

*Copy of a Paper of the Marquiss of Castel
Rodrigo: March 4, 1668.*

HAVING been frequently requested, by repeated Instances from his Majesty of *Great Britain* and the Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces*, to convince the World of the just Inclinations of the King my Lord towards a fair and reasonable Peace, and that it may be concluded, to condescend from this Hour to a general Truce by Sea and Land, in all Places thro' the whole Month of *March* inclusively consider'd, to dispose the Extension of it till *May*, and farther, if it shall be necessary, in the Form contain'd in the Treaty of the League made betwixt his Majesty of *Great Britain* and the High and Mighty Lords the States-General; and desiring on this side to give all imaginable Proofs of the Deference, Esteem, Confidence and Amity which are due to the good Intentions which his said Majesty of *Great Britain* and their High Mightinesses testify for the principal Interest and Preservation of the Countries and States of the King my Lord: I declare by this Instrument, that I admit in his Royal Name, and on his Part, the said Truce and Cessation of Arms propos'd, *viz.* from this Moment thro' the whole Month of *March*, in order that it may be extended to the last of *May*, and farther, if necessary, pursuant to what is concluded in their said Treaty; authorizing by this, as far as shall be necessary, the Lords Ministers of his Majesty of *Great Britain*, and of the High and Mighty Lords the States-General of the *United-Provinces*, which reside in the Court of *France*, that by Vertue of this they may settle and adjust the Conclusion, and promise the Observation of the said Truce and Cessation of Arms. In Confirmation of which I have sign'd the present Instrument with my Hand, seal'd it with the Seal of my Arms, and under-sign'd it by the King's Secretary of State at *Brussels* the fourth of *March*, 1668.

(L. S.) M. de CASTEL RODRIGO.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 8, 1668.

I Have receiv'd your Dispatch of the 2d of this Month. Monsieur de Wis still persists in affirming, that what the Deputies propos'd to *Castel Rodrigo* on the Truce, cannot be understood as tho' the King consented to it, every body knowing that the Proposal which his Majesty made regarded only the attacking or surprizing of Towns, and not the Hostilities of the Campaign, and till the End of *March*; and that no Inconvenience could accrue to the King from what the Deputies said on that Subject, since his Majesty was afterwards to be address'd to, in order to obtain his Consent, which is an essential Proof that he had not given it. As to the Articles of the Treaty, I believe, Sir, 'tis not possible to talk more warmly to Monsieur de Wis and the States Deputies, than I did, on those of them which shock the King; and I am sure I have nothing to blame my self for on that Subject.

Monsieur de Wis will not mention to any Person his Opinion concerning the Exchange of the Marine Places, on which I answer'd him. He concluded, that 'twould not be agreeable; and that Affair sticks there.

The States Deputies at *Brussels* have written, that *Castel Rodrigo* has accepted the Alternative, without expressing which; and that he has nam'd the Baron of *Brigeix* for his Subdelegate for the Treaty of Peace.

Monsieur de Wis told me, That he could not yet preface any thing good from Monsieur van *Benningen's* Dispatch, which sufficiently shew'd the Uncertainty of the Event of the Negotiation. The Copy of his Letter has been sent to the Cities and Provinces, to dispose them to prepare for the Charges and Expences necessary to the bringing an Army into the Field.

The Bishop of *Osunbrug* and Count *Waldeck* are arriv'd at *Leyden*, which is three Leagues from the *Hague*;

the *Dutch* are treating with them for Four thousand Men: Count *Waldeck* very much favours the States Negotiation. I am inform'd, that the *Sieur de Gournville* is with the Princess of *Brunswick*, that he is her Conductor, and that they are already arriv'd at *Amsterdam*.

A *Spanish* Ship was driven into *Flushing* by stormy Weather; it had on Board Three hundred *Spanish* Soldiers, and Two hundred thousand *Piaftres*. The *Zealanders* seiz'd on the Mony, by Reprisal of some Injury done at *Cadix* to some *Zealand* Merchants; and as for the Soldiers, they sent them to *Bruges*.

The Province of *Friesland* is continually in Confusion, the Cities are against the Country Bailiages, and this Quarrel is come so far, that they march Troops against one another. The States Commissioners, and the Ministers and Princes of *Lunenburg*, met this Morning concerning the Four thousand Men which this State desires from those Princes, and staid very late together, without being able to come to any Conclusion; nevertheless 'tis probable that the States will obtain what they ask, and that the whole Affair will be determin'd in two or three Days.

*From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: March 9, 1668.*

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 23^d of the last Month, and am so loaden with Business, that I have only time to say but one Word to you. I send you the King's Answer to the Memorial which Monsieur *van Bessingen* and the *English* Envoy presented to his Majesty on the third of this Month, concerning the Suspension till the End of *March*; and having join'd to this two other Papers, which I shall send them to morrow Morning, and which I had just time to get copy'd before the

the departure of the Post, I believe they will send them by an Express, by reason of their Importance, and that Monsieur de Wit will have them sooner than you: The King desires that as soon as you receive these three Pieces, you will cause five Copies of them to be drawn, and without loss of time send them to Messieurs de Texlon, Pompone, Millet, Beziers and Gourville; and will please to observe to them, that I entreated you to do it, not having time to get them copy'd here to send to them my self; adding, that they are to communicate to the Kings and Princes where they reside, both his Majesty's two Answers, and my private Letter to the Sieurs van Beuningen and Trevor.

I entreat you to tell Monsieur de Wit, that if I could but talk with him for two Hours, which is impossible, I would answer for the certainty of the Peace, because I know how reasonable he is, and fertile in Expedients to surmount all Difficulties; but that with the Passions and Menaces of Monsieur van Beuningen, who applies himself only to the shewing us dangerous Precipices, which we don't much value, every thing is to be fear'd with a glorious King, who is nice on the Point of Honour.

*The King's Answer to the Memorial presented to his Majesty, March 3, 1668.
by the Sieurs van Beuningen and Trevor.*

THE King has seen the Memorial presented to him the 3d of this Month by Monsieur van Beuningen, Ambassador Extraordinary from the States-General of the United-Provinces, and the Sieur Trevor, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of Great Britain, by which they have made known to his Majesty, that the Marquis of Castel Rodrigo has at last been brought to consent

consent, on the part of the King his Master, 'till the end of *March*, to the Suspension of all Attempts on the strong Places, which his Majesty offer'd from *last September*; the said Ambassador and Envoy Extraordinary praying his said Majesty to be pleas'd, for the promotion of the Peace, to keep to the Terms of his first Offer, and to send incessantly his Orders to his General Officers and others which command his Armies, not to attempt any thing on the said fortify'd Places of the *Spaniards* 'till the end of *March*.

The Motive which engag'd the King six Months since to offer this Suspension, was only to allow more room for the Negotiation of the Accommodation during the Winter, without its being in the Power of any Hostile Action to alter the Posture in which Affairs were on both sides at the end of *August*; all Changes in War generally introducing Alterations in the Negotiations of Peace.

The Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* rejected his Suspension for six whole Months, and also answer'd in Writing to an Elector of the Sacred Empire, who propos'd it to him, that this Offer of *France* might well be made in *Turkey*; but not amongst Christians at *Madrid*: By Delays and study'd Difficulties the said six Months, which time should have been esteem'd so precious to have treated in, were vainly spent on the single Preliminary Point of agreeing to a Place of meeting: The *Spaniards* pretending, against all manner of Custom, and in prejudice of the advancement of the Peace its self, to carry the Negotiation to very far distant Places, and such as are out of the view of all the Potentates and Princes, which have the greatest interest in it; in short, the *Spanish* Ministers, as they have serv'd the King their Master in several Places, have carry'd themselves with so much Opposition and Contradiction against one another on this Point of the Place of meeting, that even at this Moment, neither his Majesty, nor the Kings and Princes the Mediators, nor any whatsoever, know their real Intention on this Point; for at the
same

same time that the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* on this side, said that he had full Power to treat, and that of subdelegating another in his place, that he chose *Aix la Chapelle* for the Place of meeting of the Ministers, besides which he both said and wrote that he was ready to go thither himself, or to send thither his Sub-delegate, according to the Quality of which Persons the King has nam'd Monsieur *Colbert* for whom his Holiness's Nuncio has from the 14th of the last Month desir'd a Passport, which does not yet come; and at the same time the other Ministers which are at *Madrid*, and consequently at the source of the Resolutions of the Court of *Spain*, publicly say, and write to all Places, that the full Power which was sent in the Month of *August* to the said Marquis, has been long out and invalid, it being only sent him on occasion of the Passage of the Abbot *Rossiglioni*, Nephew to his Holiness, at present Cardinal, who they acknowleg'd for sole Mediator, their Queen not having accepted any other Interposition than that of his Holiness: They farther add, that the said Marquis is inexcusable for having nam'd the City of *Aix la Chapelle* contrary to his Orders, and against the Declaration which the said Queen had caus'd to be made to his Holiness, by the Marquis *d'Assorgas* her Ambassador, to whom also she lately sent her full Power; that she would never treat of Peace but at *Rome*, *Venice* or the *Pyrenees*, and there is a Letter of Cardinal *Visconti*, Nuncio in *Spain*, which the last Post from *Madrid* brought to the Abbot *Vibo*, who is charg'd with the Care of the Affairs of the Holy See to the King, by which the said Cardinal confirms to him a Truth which is not to be doubted of, that the *Spaniards* will not treat any where but at *Rome*, and takes notice to him of this Particular, that the Cardinal of *Aragon*, who is of the Junto and Council of State, coming to visit him to tell him the Queen's true Intention on this Point, accompany'd his Expressions with great Complaints of so many false steps which the Governor of *Flanders* made, against the Sentiments

timents and Orders of her Majesty; but yet all these Uncertainties and study'd Alterations to hinder treating, as well as the constant Refusal of the said Marquis for the space of six Months of the Suspension, which his Majesty caus'd to be offer'd him by an Elector of the Empire, have lost the King his Master the *Franche Comtee*, which he might have secur'd for the whole Winter, by barely acquiescing (if he had don't sooner) as he has done at present to the Suspension, at least for the remainder of the time to the end of *March*.

But as his Majesty, as has been observ'd, in offering the said Suspension of Attempts, had no other Motives than by the Cessation of all Innovations, to give the greater room and facility to the advancement of the Negotiations of Peace, and that on the other side we have just now clearly shewn, that the Place of Assembling its self not being firmly fix'd, nor the Plenipotentiaries which ought to be there not being yet on their way thither, which is the Fault of the *Spaniards*, who at present prolong the Expedition of a Passport which has been desir'd of them for the *Sieur Colbert*; the single Month of *March* can no longer suffice to advance to any degree the said Negotiations, which may not yet hinder that we may and should continue them in all the following Months, 'till we can attain the end of this great Work.

'Tis easie to judge that the Instance which is at present made to his Majesty, to grant the said Suspension of Attempts 'till the end of this Month, does not extend so much, as the last Lines of the said Memorial of the said Ambassador and Envoy Extraordinary say, to draw from his Majesty this Mark of the sincerity of his Intentions for the Accommodation, as to set in safety for that time all the Places of the *Spanish* Monarchy.

Yet, tho' his Majesty perfectly knows the truth, he is very willing to have the complaisance for the Desires of the King of *Great Britain* and the States General,

neral, to send to his General Officers and all others who command his Arms, to forbid their attacking or surprizing, 'till the last of this Month inclusively, any fortify'd Place or Post of the *Spaniards*.

But as in case that the said Marquis grants the Passport to the said *Sieur Colbert* to go to *Aix*, it will be very vexatious for him to set forward on his Journey only to lose his Labour, the King desires that the *Sieurs van Beuningen* and *Trevor* will, without delay, by *Sir William Temple* and the Deputies of the States-General, which are with the said *Cassil Rôdrigo*, oblige him to declare whether his full Power, which he says he has, is conceiv'd in such Form, and in such Terms, as not to leave any doubt that we may treat with him with Validity and Honour, and particularly that he prove whether the full Power which he pretends is in-being, and empowers him to Subdelegate another Person in his place; for if he have not sufficient Power for that, we leave it to be judg'd what good Foundation the Nomination which he has made of the Count de *Caramage* will have; what good Success may be expected from the sending of the *Sieur Colbert*, and in fine, how scandalous would be the illusion which the said Marquis has carry'd on so long to all Christendom, and first of all the amusement of the Journey to *Aix*, whether he never had any Intention to go, and afterwards to send thither a Man with an imaginary Power.

A Second Answer to the Memorial of the Ambassadors and Envoy of Holland and England: March 9, 1668.

TO the Memorial presented to the King on the 3d of this Month by the *Sieurs van Beuningen* and *Trevor*, respective Ambassadors and Envoys Extraordinary of the King of Great Britain and the States-General

neral of the *United-Provinces*, his Majesty answers, that he is not more nearly concern'd for any thing than the inviolable accomplishment on all Occasions of his Royal Word, and that he at present very well remembers, that ever since *September* last, on the Overtures and Entreaties made by the said Sieurs the States, and himself being otherwise actuated by the sincere desire which he has, and shall always have for the Re-establishment of the publick Tranquility; he consented that all the Satisfaction which he pretended on account of the Rights devolv'd on the Queen, by the decease of the King and Queen of *Spain*, her Father and Mother, should be retrench'd and reduc'd, in consideration of what his Majesty demanded in favour of *Portugal*, on Conditions of an Accommodation adjusted by the principal Ministers and Directors of the Affairs of the said States, as having been judg'd by them equitable and very moderate; and that the said Conditions were, That *Spain* by a Treaty of Peace should in due Form yield to his said Majesty, either all the Conquests which his Arms have made in the *Low-Countries* during the Campaign, and which he is in Possession of, or else the Duchy of *Luxemburg*, or in its place the *Franche Comte*, *Cambray* and the *Cambresis*, *Douay*, comprehending *Fort Scarpe*, *Aire*, *St. Omer*, *Bergue*, *Furnes* and *Linck*, and all the Bailliages, Appurtenances and Dependances of the same, his said Majesty restoring in this second Case to *Spain* the Conquests which he has made in the said Campaign, on Condition that the Fortifications of *Charleroy* be demolish'd before its Restitution, and that *Spain* have the choice of accepting either of the said Alternatives, and that his Majesty give his Royal Word to content himself with one of the two 'till the end of *March*.

His Majesty does not less remember, that before his March to the *Franche Comte*, he wrote to our Holy Father the Pope, and several Kings, Princes and Potentates which accepted of the Mediation, that what Progress soever his Arms might make in that Military Expedition,

pedition, which he undertook in the heart of the Winter to advance the Peace, he would not take occasion to augment to his Advantage the Conditions of the two Alternatives, to which he had consented for so long time as has been mention'd.

In Consequence of which, his said Majesty being inviolably determin'd to accomplish his Royal Promises, yet again declares to the said Sieurs *van Bunningen* and *Treuer*, that notwithstanding the Conquest which his Arms have afterwards made of the whole *Franche Comte*, he continues and persists in the same Sentiments and Conditions which he agreed to from *September*, 'till the last of *March*, to content himself for his Satisfaction with such of the said Alternatives above-mention'd as *Spain* shall be willing to yield to him.

But yet the said Sieurs *van Bunningen* and *Treuer*, having afterwards, on the 8th of this Month, handed to his Majesty the Copy of a Paper sign'd at *Brussels* on the 4th, by the *Marquis de Castel Rodrigo*, Governor of *Flanders*, pretending to his having full Power from the Queen of *Spain*, his Mistress, by which Paper he accepts the Alternative simply and exactly as we have propos'd it to him, at which his said Majesty would very much rejoice, if this acceptance proves sincere in the end, and has already nominated Commissioners to treat on his Part with the said *van Bunningen* and *Treuer*, that they may speedily bring to a conclusion this great Work of Peace, always desir'd by his said Majesty with Passion and Sincerity.

From

*From Monsieur de Lionne to Messieurs
van Beuningen and Trevor : March 9,
1668.*

MESSIEURS,

I Have sent you the King's Answer, as well to the last Memorial which you presented to him, as to the Copy which you handed to his Majesty, sign'd by the Marquis *de Castel Rodrigo* on the 4th of this Month: His Majesty would rejoice at the Peace (as taking it to be already concluded) on the favourable Declaration which he this day presents you, if he could thoroughly persuade himself that the Instructions and Power, on which the Governor of *Flanders* acts, were real Instructions, and an unquestionable Power; contrary to all that is publicly reported at *Madrid*, as you must have seen in the Answer to your Memorial of the 3d of *March*; and that this Marquis does not run the same Risque, to be as well disown'd on his Acceptance of the Alternative, as he has hitherto been on the choice of *Aix la Chapelle* for the place of meeting of the Ministers. What ought yet more to augment the Suspicions and Distrusts is, that his Majesty has observ'd that his manner of accepting the said Alternative has been only in very captious Terms; for in the first place, Men don't usually at once accept two Things so distinct and different, that they destroy one another: In the second place, he ought to express which of the two Alternatives he accepts: In the third place, he refers his acceptance to the Contents of the Treaty made betwixt *England* and *Holland*; and, Gentlemen, you well know that the Alternatives, as the King has consented to them, are not exactly express'd in the Body of that Treaty: The very Words of which are, *Si Hispania Rex induci aut promoveri queat ut cedat Regi Christianissimo aut loca anno praterito in*
Belgica

Belgica armis occupata, aut aliud dum valens per traditionem locorum superius memoratorum, aliorumve in compensationem de quibus mutuo consensu paries inter se convenire poterunt. So that the said Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo*, by expressing his Acceptance of the Alternative, in general Terms, in such manner as contain'd in the said Treaty, without specifying any Particulars to be pretended when we should engage with him in Negotiation, he being (notwithstanding the said Acceptation) empower'd to treat of, and to agree afresh on the Nature of the Satisfaction adjusted betwixt his Majesty and the States.

His Majesty farther thinks it deserves his very serious Reflection, that at the same time that the said Marquiss accepts the said Alternative, and that he cannot miss seeing of what Importance 'tis to gain even the least Moment of time to treat in, yet he has not by the same Courier which brought hither his Declaration, sent the Passport which Signior *Franciotti*, his Holiness's Nuncio and Plenipotentiary, has requested of him for Monsieur *Colbert* ever since the middle of *February*, in order to repair, without Delay, to *Aix la Chapelle*; that is to say, that in twenty four Days the said Marquiss has not had either the Time, Inclination or Power to expedite the said Passport.

His Majesty besides observes, that the Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo* has accepted the Alternative at the time when *Spain* nas just made a particular Peace with *Portugal*; for Monsieur *de l'Isola* has long since laid down in his Libel, approv'd and communicated by the Spanish Ministers, as an infallible Principle of the Conduct of *Madrid*, That if *Spain* ever sacrific'd *Portugal*, 'twould be, says he, for no other Reason than the Restoration of Countries; or if she gives some Satisfaction to *France*, she will do it only in order to recover *Portugal*: But the *Portuguese* Peace having been sign'd ever since the 13th of the last Month, which was known at *Brussels* as well as here, on the 4th of *March*, I leave to you, Gentlemen, to judge from the Principle,

ciple, which has been settled as an infallible Maxim of the Conduct of the *Spaniards*, whether it can be taken for a certain Truth, or even a bare Probability, that the Councils of *Madrid* having employ'd all the Winter in making Peace with *Portugal*, the better to defend its self against *France*, and also have ever given Power to the said Marquis to accept the Alternative; or whether the mention'd Marquis, who is not ignorant of the Prudence and Resolutions of *Spain*, has accepted the Alternative with Sincerity, or whether he can hope or desire his being own'd in it in *Spain*, where, according to what we have, the whole Application of the Ministers was engag'd some Days before to expedite the Departure of Don *John of Austria*, with Ten thousand natural *Spaniards*, and Three or Four Millions in Bars of Silver; Circumstances not very proper to induce us to believe that they there thought of accepting the Alternative.

From all which has been hinted above, be pleas'd to judge, whether his Majesty has not great Reason to manage, on this Occasion, with such Precaution, against the Surprizes and Artifices of the Marquis *de Castel Rodrigo* (who probably cares not whether he be own'd or disown'd, provided that he gains time) that he may not have room to laugh at his Majesty in the Result of this Affair, by making use of the great Desire which his Majesty has to see the Peace speedily concluded, to draw him into Measures contrary to that great Work.

ADDITION.

I add yet this one Word, to engage you to observe, that 'tis easie to see that the Conduct of the *Spaniards* on this Occasion, is the same with that which they observ'd at *Munster*, they not having apply'd themselves, during the whole Winter, to any thing besides the making of a particular Peace with *Portugal* (which succeeded with them) to enable them to continue the War against this Crown; and a certain Person remark'd on this

this Head at *Rome*, That all the Couriers which the Zeal of our Holy Father the Pope, for the Peace, has oblig'd him to dispatch to *Spain*, to advance the Negotiation, went always to *Madrid* like Falcons, and return'd like Tortoises. God, out of his Goodness, send, that all be deceiv'd in this Opinion.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 15, 1668.

Monsieur *van Beuningen*'s Courier is not yet arriv'd, and Monsieur *de Wit* was not any otherwise, than by me, inform'd of the Answer which the King made by your Letter to the mention'd *van Beuningen*, with which he shew'd himself very well pleas'd: I told him, that you said in your Letter, that if you could confer with him for the space of two Hours, you would undertake for the Certainty of the Peace, because you knew how reasonable he is, and how fertile in Expedients to surmount all Difficulties; but that with the Passion and Menaces of Monsieur *van Beuningen*, who solely apply'd himself to shew us the great Precipices which were not fear'd at the Court, the whole Success is to be fear'd with a glorious King, who is nice on the Point of Honour.

He answer'd me, That if 'twas possible, he should desire nothing more than to speak with you, not doubting but that the Lights which you would give him, would much facilitate the great Work of the Peace; that he is surpriz'd to hear of Monsieur *van Beuningen*'s manner of acting, which is quite contraty to the Orders which he had from the States, which are to induce the King by Supplications and Submissions, and all manner of soft and agreeable Means, to grant to his Allies, of which Number the States are, the humble Petition which they make him, to content himself with the Alternative, and the Suspension of Arms till the End of

March; and he writes to him this Post to act with more Moderation and Complaisance for his Majesty, to whom the States were sensible they were very much oblig'd for the Answer which you made on this Subject to Messieurs *van Benningen* and *Trevor*.

I then told him, that by this Letter he might remark the just Suspensions of the King concerning the Form of the Acceptance of the Alternative by *Castel Rodrigo*; and that perhaps it might be disown'd by *Spain*, and form new Designs in *Flanders*, at the Arrival of Don *John* there with the Troops which he is to bring with him; that, in my Opinion, the States ought from this present to take Measures against it; that the Province of *Holland* being assembled, I thought it proper to see the Deputies of the Cities, to inform them with what Sincerity the King accepts the Alternative, express to them his Doubts of that of the *Spaniards*, and engage them to send Deputies to the States-General to communicate to them their Opinion in this Conjunction; which is, That if the *Spaniards*, under any Pretext whatsoever, come to disown *Castel Rodrigo* on the Subject of his Acceptance of the Alternative, or that the said *Castel Rodrigo* does it of his own Head, that their Opinion is to break with *Spain* without delay, and oblige *England* to do the same; that they might be punctual in keeping their Promise which they had made to the King. The *Sieur de Wit* approv'd my Sentiment, and promis'd to second it. I spent all yesterday in Negotiations, and found in the Cities of *Holland* all the favourable Sentiments which I could wish; and this Day the Province of *Holland* is to consider on making a strong Deputation to the States-General, to signify their Opinion to them, conform to what is above. The Provinces of *Utrecht*, *Friesland* and *Groningen* will make a Difficulty of accepting such Resolutions, without communicating them to their Principals, on which the Deputies of *Holland* are dispos'd to answer, That their Province will rather undertake the War alone, than suffer any Alteration of what has been promis'd by *Castel Rodrigo* to their Deputies at *Brussels*.

I assure you, Sir, that 'tis not possible to act better, nor with more Vigour than the Province of *Holland* does, and that this Declaration has very much surpriz'd People; and, in order to be in a better Posture to act against *Spain*, they will cause a very considerable Body of their Forces to advance to the Frontiers of *Brabant*; they are this day to sign a Treaty with the Bishop of *Osnabrug* for Fifteen thousand Horse, and Three thousand Foot, and to distribute Money for the rest of the new Levies. I doubt very much, after this Declaration, and so many Forces in the Field, the *Spaniards* us'ing what they have agreed to.

The Jurats of *Bordeaux* have already sent me a Memorial, like that which Monsieur de la Voilliere gave you, and I have apply'd to the States to have Justice on such a manifest Breach of Faith, as that which appears in the Complaint against the Masters of the *Dutch* Ships. They answer'd me, That they disapprov'd their Proceeding, and would chastise them; but that the Proprietors should mention the Name of the Ships, and the Master to whom they deliver'd their Wines and Commodities, in order to call them before them, and make them give an Account of what they had done, and make a true Discovery whether their Conduct had been good or bad. I wrote to the Proctor *Sindic* of *Bordeaux*, that he send me by the first, a Memorial on which I may act, and prosecute the Masters of the Ships which were laden with the Effects of the Inhabitants of the City of *Bordeaux*.

Whilst I am finishing this Letter, Monsieur de *Gourville* is arriv'd from *Leyden*, whither he went to visit the Bishop of *Osnabrug*: He told me, That he having receiv'd one of your Dispatches of the 9th of this Instant, with Power from the King to communicate it to me; he hit his time so well, that he had caus'd the deferring of the Treaty of that Prince with the States, under Pretext, that his Highness could not do it, without imparting it to the Duke of *Zell*, his Brother. Count *Waldock* being present when he spake to the Bishop of

Osnabrug, 'tis to be fear'd he will acquaint Monsieur *de Wit* and the Commissioners with it, and charge the Delay of the signing of the Treaty to the *Sieur de Gourville*; tho' Count *Waldeck* promis'd him to keep it secret, knowing beyond a Possibility of doubting, that Count *Waldeck*, *Wicqueford* and *Mullard*, Ministers of the Duke of *Brunswick*, are entirely gain'd by the Province of *Holland*; and that they have also receiv'd Presents for the Execution of this Treaty, and would also have inclin'd that Prince, if Monsieur *de Gourville*, who has an Influence over him, had not, in a Moment, overturn'd what they had been doing several Days. I refer to what the said *Sieur de Gourville* writes you more particularly on this Affair, in which he will punctually follow the Orders which you have sent him. I should tell you only that at present the Dukes of *Brunswick* are the most considerable Princes of *Germany*, and that they have at present all the Credit which the *Swedes* formerly had; and that if they would raise Thirty thousand Men, they could do it in a Month's time; I know it from several good Officers, which have quitted the *Swedes* to come to them. There is no King nor Prince in the *North*, which so well pay their Forces as they; they have also Thirteen thousand of the best Men that can be seen, and a Number of Veteran Officers.

Monsieur *van Beuningen*'s Courier arriv'd this Morning, and confirm'd the good News which I yesterday communicated to Monsieur *de Wit* and the States, contain'd in the Copies of the Dispatches which you address'd to me, which was very joyfully receiv'd here, and has undeceiv'd a great many People of the Opinion which they had, that the King did not desire Peace.

Monsieur *de Wit* has just now sent me the Resolution which the States of *Holland* have taken to engage the States-General to write to Monsieur *van Beuningen*, pursuant to the Article hereunto annex'd, which is to be inserted in Substance in their Letter, which will be a farther Engagement against the *Spaniards*, in case *Castel*

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Rodrigo should be disown'd in what he has done at *Brussels* with their Deputies.

The States have given a Project to the *Portuguese* Ambassador, by which they remit Four hundred thousand Crowns of what is due to them, provided that the rest be paid down, and that the Restitution of *Cochin* and *Cananor* be no more mention'd; and that all the Articles of the Treaty made at the *Hague* by Count *Miranda*, be ratify'd by the present Government: The said Ambassador has dispatch'd to *Portugal* the *Sieur Ulhoa*, Resident in *Holland*, to present this Project to *Don Pedro*, and bring back his Answer.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: March 16, 1668.

I Receiv'd your two Letters of the eighth of this Month. To make clearly appear to *Monsieur de Wit*, and by his Means to the States, with what Sincerity the *Marquis of Castel Rodrigo* carries himself in all things, and the false Steps which he so boldly makes, without any Power, and the Orders and Intentions of the Queen his Mistress, as well on the Place of meeting, as in his Acceptance of the Alternative; you may on the first farther remark, that the Queen of *Spain* wrote to the Assembly of *Collen* on the sixteenth Day of *January*, that she would not treat of Peace but at *Rome*; and that this Letter was not given to the Courier of the Elector and Princes till the twenty eighth, and that the said Courier did not set out from *Madrid* before the thirteenth of *February*; but yet we are told here, that the mention'd *Marquis* affirms, that after his full Power expedited in *August*, he receiv'd another of the twenty eighth of *January*; and what is yet more, I yesterday saw a Letter from Cardinal *Visconti* to the Abbot *Vibo*, of the twenty third of *February*, which confirms to him, that the Ministers on the Subject of the Choice of *Aix*

la Chapelle, daily tell him, that *Castel Rodrigo* had no Power to do it, and that the Court would not treat of Peace but at *Rome*. 'Tis very observable, that this was said to that Cardinal, when he inform'd them of the Nomination of *Monsieur Colbert* to go to *Aix*; how is it possible to reconcile so many Contradictions?

On the second, the Acceptation of the Alternative, all the Advices of the twelfth from *Madrid* unanimously bring, that especially after the signing of the *Portuguese* Peace, and the Ratification was sent away, and the Departure of *Don John* resolv'd on the first of *March*, with great Assistances of Men and Mony, the Ministry would not only not bear the hearing of the Word *Alternative*, nor do the least thing in the World, which could, in the least, prejudice the Validity of the Queen's Renunciation.

Monsieur de Wit, who has as much Justice as Penetration, will conclude from all this above, how much the King is oblig'd by all the Rules of Prudence to precaution himself, with regard to the whole Conduct of the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, who, we clearly see, thinks of nothing but gaining of time, advancing without Power, what he cannot make good.

From the Court D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 22, 1668.

AS soon as I receiv'd your Dispatch of the sixteenth of this Instant; I went to *Monsieur de Wit*, to communicate to him its Contents. He shew'd me that which *Monsieur van Benningen* wrote to him, which express'd a great Surprize, that the King's Commissioners would not grant him the Departure of *Monsieur Colbert* for *Aix la Chapelle*; on the Pretexs which don't tend to Peace; and on this the *Sieur de Wit*, who could not sufficiently wonder at the Difficulties contain'd in your Dispatch, since for the Interest of the King himself,

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presupposing that he desires the Peace on the Conditions which he has propos'd, 'twould be to be wish'd, that *Castel Rodrigo* had sign'd the Peace, even tho' it should be disown'd by the Queen of *Spain*, since that would engage the States and *England* to break with *Spain*; that they would force the *Spaniards* by their Arms to accept of what had been done by the said Marquiss; that they have so press'd him by their Deputies, that they have extorted from him a Copy of his Power, which sufficiently authorizes him to yield such Conditions as he shall think proper; that besides the mention'd Deputies have sent to the States the Extract of the Queen of *Spain's* Letter, which approves and authorizes what the said *Castel Rodrigo* has done, with regard to the Choice of the City of *Aix la Chapelle* to treat of Peace there, since he offers to sign at *Brussels* whatever shall be concluded by his Subdelegate, to give the greater force to the Negotiation; that all the Advantages, and that which he made of naming the Alternative, which he accepts, must persuade his Majesty that the Peace is in his Hands; and that obtaining all that he asks, will render it glorious; for, for his own part, he does not believe that if it had been possible for him to talk with you one Hour, that you should not give into his Opinion, in the Sentiments which the States are to oblige *Castel Rodrigo* by all the most forcible Ways which they can make use of,

That what seems to be the Design in *Spain*, to sow Division betwixt *England*, the States and *France*, under Pretext of disowning the Power of *Castel Rodrigo*, ought not to stop, but press the Expedition of Affairs, since the States and *England* will not allow the Marquiss any Rest till he has sign'd; and if he does not do it, they will break with *Spain*; but that to throw the Blame on him, 'twas necessary that the King should send his Plenipotentiary to *Aix* to conclude the Treaty; that he pay'd me to write to you seriously, not to let slip such a fair Occasion as this, in which so many Kings and Princes labour to contribute to the King's Satisfaction.

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This, Sir, is the whole Substance of the Answer he gave me. In reply to which, I urg'd all the Arguments contain'd in your Dispatch, and that the King discerning so many Contradictions, could not sufficiently precaution himself against a Conduct so irregular, and so full of Artifice, as is that of the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*.

Monsieur de *Gourville* set out with the Dutchess of *Osnaaburg*, to follow the Prince, who goes to visit the Duke of *Zell* his Brother, to communicate the Project which the States have sent him for the Treaty concerning their Troops. Count *Waldeck* has acquainted Monsieur de *Wit*, and the Commissioners which treated with their Ministers, with all that pass'd betwixt that Prince and Monsieur de *Gourville*, with which Monsieur de *Wit* reproach'd me. I answer'd him, That what the Sieur de *Gourville* did, was by Vertue of his old Orders, to gain these Princes and their Allies, and prevent their searching of new ones, as it was the Design of the said Count *Waldeck* to league them with the House of *Austria*; that the said *Gourville* continually advis'd them to stick to *France* and the States, believing them inseparable from our Interests; that he acted yet on the same Foot, and that he well knew that this Treaty with the Princes had been sign'd, if the State would have kept to the first Conditions of their Treaty; so that if he shew'd any Diligence on his side, 'twas when he found the States Treaty to be alter'd by new Propositions, and fear'd that Count *Waldeck* would renew his first Design of engaging them to the House of *Austria*; and that I thought that he had done well, both for the King and the States, to occasion the referring of all things to the Conference which was to be held with the Dukes of *Zell*. He seem'd satisfy'd with what I said. 'Tis certain, that Count *Waldeck* had prevail'd on that Prince to conclude and sign his Treaty, when Monsieur de *Gourville* arriv'd at *Leyden*, and that he soon prevail'd on him to conclude on nothing before he has been with the Duke of *Zell*, and made appear to him
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how all this Noise came from Count *Waldeck*, contrary to his Promise to the Prince not to discover it to any Person: He dexterously hinted to him, that he wish'd his speaking to him, tho' he represented to him, that 'twas proper that he appear'd wholly ignorant, considering the wide Distance which there was, with regard to all that tended towards an Alliance betwixt *France* and the House of *Brunswick* and its Ministers. The Bishop of *Osnabrag* left *Amsterdam* on the 17th of this Month, and he follow'd him two Hours after with the Princess to go to *Zell*; in the *interim* we shall know the King's Intentions, on the Propositions which he makes, by his Dispatches. I sent him, by an Express, the last which you wrote him, which will meet him on the Way; 'tis not possible for him to act with more Zeal, Affection and Address, than he does in all things regarding the King's Service. If his Majesty does not find his Account in the Negotiation, he has as much time as is requisite to engage these Princes in his Interest. *Gourville* will hinder their concluding any thing till your Answer; but to secure them, and break the Measures of Count *Waldeck*, 'tis necessary that the Bills of Exchange of the Sums to be agreed on with them, be in the Hands of the mention'd *Sieur de Gourville*, in order to his delivering the Money at the same time that they shall be agreed.

I find the Deputies of the Assembly of the States of *Holland* very much surpriz'd at this last Dispatch of *Monfieur van Beuningen*; I discern already the *Spanish* Cabal intriguing every where, and publishing, that they always believ'd that the King did not sincerely intend the Peace, and that it now appear'd by his Majesty's refusing to send his Plenipotentiary to *Aix*, tho' *Casfel Rodrigo* has agreed to the King's Demands. This is, Sir, what one is subject to with People who are very susceptible of the Impressions made on them.

Monfieur de Beverning is nam'd by the States to go to *Aix la Chapelle* with the Character of their Plenipotentiary; he intends to set out as soon as they shall be
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here inform'd of the Resolution which the King has taken for th. Departure of Monsieur *Colbert*.

In the mean time they began yesterday to regulate the separate Bodies of their Forces, and appoint a Rendezvous for their Army, which will be at *Rosendal*, six Leagues from *Antwerp*; it will be compos'd of twenty five Regiments of Infantry, which will amount to Sixteen thousand Men, and of Four thousand Horse.

There is to be in the Country of *Waes*, near *Hulst*, a Body of Six Regiments and Six hundred Horse; and another betwixt *Zutphen* and *Daventer*, on the *Iffel*, of Seven Regiments of Infantry, and Twelve hundred Horse.

If the Treaty about the Troops of *Lunenbourg* comes to be concluded, they design that Body on the *Rhine*, betwixt *Wesel* and *Orsoy*, and will join to it Three Regiments of Infantry, and a Thousand Horse.

They have reinforc'd the Garrison of *Mastricht* with Three Regiments of Infantry and Five hundred Horse. This is the true intended Distribution of all their Troops.

I have been advertis'd by two of my Friends of the Province of *Holland*, that there is this Morning arriv'd a second Letter from Monsieur *van Beuningen*, which perswades the States that there is greater Appearance of War than Peace, referring to his first Letter, in which he mentions all the Particulars: He says in his last, That the State would do well to use Precaution, and that they are to expect that the King will refuse sending his Plenipotentiary to *Aix*, on the Deficiency of *Castel Rodrigo's* Power, notwithstanding the Declarations which the States make against the Deficiency of the said Power, in case it be really so; that all these are but Pretexts for the Conquest of the *Netherlands*, and that they will see the King enter into *Flanders* with three Armies in *April*. I also know, that after the Reception of this Letter they deliberated on two Points; the one, to write to the Deputies of the States which are at *Brussels*, to propose to *Castel Rodrigo* anew, the Engagement
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of the three Places with the Customs of the *Scheld* and the *Maes*, for the Loan of Four Millions; and the other, to send a Power to the States Ambassadors in *England* to conclude with the Count *de Dhona* on the Propositions which he made, of which I gave you an Account by my Dispatch of the 8th of this Month. I thought these Advices were important enough to oblige my seeing Monsieur *de Wit*, before the closing of this Dispatch: I was almost two Hours with him; on the Report which is spread in the *Hague*, that the King refuses the Peace, and that Monsieur *van Benningen* by his Dispatches informs his Masters so, I told him, that he might undeceive them by telling them the just Reasons which the King has to mistrust the subtle Procedure of *Castel Rodrigo*; that there is nothing more conclusive than what the Cardinal *Visconti* has written to the Abbot *Vibo* in his two Letters of the 23d and 26th of *February*, of which I had inform'd him.

That I had examin'd the Copy of *Castel Rodrigo's* Power of the 4th of *August* 1667, which he sent me by his Clerk, which appears to me very captious, and relative to several Articles which are conceal'd, and which probably destroy the Force of the said Power; that the Copy of the Queen of *Spain's* Letter, from whence he (the *Sieur de Wit*) infers an Acceptance of the City of *Aix* for the Treaty of Peace, signifies nothing, and is also express'd in such Terms, that it seems rather adapted to serve as a Trap, than to act sincerely; that all this being so, one ought not to be surpriz'd, if the King took his Measures against such Artifices, and so many Leagues which were preparing against him, and that he would clearly see the Actions of the one, and the Promises of the other; that if every body acted as sincerely as his Majesty does, we should soon see the Peace made; but that if, on the contrary, the *Spaniards* think to amuse us by false Powers, and that *England* and the States think to try us by their League, by taking all for good that comes from the *Spaniards*, and pressing us to acquiesce to it, I could tell them beforehand,

hand, tho' twas from my self, that the King is a Prince too generous, and too jealous of his Honour, to be hurried whither they pleas'd; and that this is not the way to repair what they had done against Reason, and the usual Forms, to continue to entertain Jealousies of the King, and enter into Negotiations for the Preparatives for an Army rather against the King, than to advance the Peace.

Monfieur *de Wit* answer'd me, That all that Monfieur *van Benningen* wrote to the States was not against *France*, but that he very succinctly shew'd the little Inclination which he observ'd there was in *France* for the Peace, since it aim'd only at gaining the time of the Campaign to invade *Flanders*; and that the Peace depended on the King, their Guaranty being strong enough, by the Declaration which the States made on the 15th of *March*, to break with *Spain*, in case that the Queen of *Spain* disown'd what the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* should have done and concluded; or that he himself should come to unsay it, under any Pretext whatsoever; that this seem'd to him sufficient, in case that the Power was deficient, and by it the King would be secur'd; and also the same was true, with regard to the Approbation of the Choice of the City of *Aix*; that as to what concern'd the two Points which I spake to him of, 'twas true, that they had consider'd on accommodating with *Sweden* the Differences which remain'd to be adjusted, and the examining more narrowly their Propositions; and that for the other Points, the States have not given any Order to their Deputies to propose the Engagement of the Places; not but that if the States find their Advantage and Security in such an Affair, they will do it when the Conjunction of Time permits.

You may judge, Sir, by his Answers, whether there is not an Appearance that the Advices which were given me, are true.

From all the Considerations above, I conclude, that if the King is necessitated to continue the War by the unjust

unjust Proceedings of the *Spaniards* and the States, he cannot pitch on a fitter time than in next Month, the States not being able to put themselves into a Posture of bringing an Army into the Field, to oppose his Majesty's Designs, in two Months: Please to make the Reflection on this which you shall think proper.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: March 23, 1668.

I Receiv'd your dispatch of the 15th. I forbear sending you the Copy of a very important one, which I wrote the 19th of this Month to Messieurs *van Benningen* and *Trevor*, not so much because you may have seen it in the Hands of Monsieur *de Wit*, as by reason that the said Sieur *van Benningen* discover'd to me, that he should be very glad that it were not communicated to any Person whatsoever, to avoid giving room to Replies and Duplies, which would only tend to aggravate things, rather than advance the Peace; but as 'tis nevertheless of Importance, that all Christendom be inform'd what the King is willing to do to his own Prejudice, to re-establish the publick Peace, I send you a Copy of the Answer which his Majesty gave to the Assembly of the Electors and Princes of the Assembly at *Collen*, on the Instance which the Legation made to his Majesty concerning the Prorogation of the Suspension of Enterprises: The King desires, that as soon as you shall receive it, you will order five Copies to be drawn, and send them to Monsieur *de Pomponne*, *de Terlon*, *de Beziere*, *Millet* and *Gonville*.

I frankly own to you, that I am a very Bungler, being grossly deceiv'd in a thing which I believ'd infallible, and which yet has fail'd; but for my Consolation for having committed this Blunder, I yet persuade myself, that if I had had to do with Monsieur *de Wit*, he would have made another use of it. 'Tis this;

I thought that as soon as Monsieur *van Benningen* had seen the three great Advances, and facilitating Steps which the King made towards the Peace, which are such that no Person would have ventur'd to have hop'd, as you will see by the said Paper, I should have seen, even at the very Instant of the Reception of it, appear in my Chamber Messieurs *van Benningen* and *Trevor*, to press me to labour at a Treaty which should bind the King till the 15th of *May* to persist in the two Alternatives, and to draw up immediately that which is to be made betwixt his Majesty and the *Spaniards*, on the Foundation of the said Alternatives, to the end to find his Majesty in such manner, that there should be nothing to wait for but the *Spaniards* signing, to secure that the Peace was made; and this is what, I say, seem'd to have been what Monsieur *de Wit* would have done: But I was mightily surpriz'd when the said *van Benningen*, after the Reception of the said Paper, came to acquaint me, that he consider'd it only as the provisional Resolutions of his Majesty, which would contribute nothing to the Peace, unless the King granted the Suspension which he ask'd to the End of *May*. I declar'd on this, that there was nothing personal in it, and that his Majesty's Answers were very favourable, and also the last that he would have; and then I offer'd him to lay Paper on the Table to begin to go about the Treaty which we were to conclude together, and that between *France* and *Spain*, on the Foot of the Alternatives. He reply'd, That there was nothing to be treated betwixt us, whilst the King did not grant the Suspension to the End of *May*; and that the States would think of taking other Measures. I return'd, That the King would, in effect, grant the Suspension till the 15th of *May*, since he was willing to surrender the Places which his Arms should occupy till that day; and having ask'd him, if he would not, on that account, trust his Majesty's Word? He answer'd me, That he should consider rather, *quid Rex possit, quam quid velit*. I reply'd, That I much doubt'd whether the States would own him

in his making me such an Answer, and that I would charge him to them with the loss of time, in which we might have drawn up the two Treaties above-mention'd, this loss alone being enough to make the Peace fail. To this he told me, that he was not at liberty to make any Treaty with us, unless the King would prolong the Suspension to the first of *June*, and that the States had entered into this Engagement with the King of *England*. I reply'd two or three times, that I desir'd him to take the Pains to read over, better than he had, the third Secret Article of the Treaty at the *Hague*, of which he made such a Secret, and that he would find that neither the word *Suspension*, nor that of *Cessation of Arms*, are once mention'd: He durst not venture to assert that what I advanc'd was not true, and if he had, I had enough at hand to convince him whilst on the spot: All this pass'd in the presence of Monsieur *Trevor*, who by some Discourse which he intermix'd, and his Gestures, did not discover any Approbation of what the said *van Benningen* said.

You'll find in the answer to the Legation of the Assembly of *Collen*, the Considerations which ought to be taken on the captious, which may be call'd absurd Terms, which the Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo* has made use of to compose his Declaration on the choice of the Alternative. I don't comprehend how Sir *William Temple* and the States Deputies at *Brussels* come to charge themselves with such Pieces; is this to exercise the Mediation sincerely?

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The King's Answer to the Legation of the Electors and Princes at Collen, mention'd above, &c. March 22, 1668.

ON the fresh Instances which the Legation of the Electors and Princes of the Empire, assembled at *Collen*, have made to the King, that he would please to prolong 'till the end of *May* the Suspension of Enterprises, which his Majesty has already consented to 'till the last of *March*, to the end that that time may be more profitably employ'd in the Negotiations of Peace, without its being in the Power of any Hostilities to interrupt it:

His said Majesty answers, That he believ'd that nothing would be more contrary even to the Peace its self, against the Intention of the said Legation and of its Superiors, than the Consent which his Majesty should give on these Instances made to him, because it plainly appears that the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo's* Design in all his present Conduct, is only to try to gain time by a new Suspension, in order to make way, whilst it shall last, for the coming without Obstacle or Opposition of ten thousand natural Born *Spaniards* which go into *Flanders* with *Don John of Austria*, and the arrival of the powerful Assistance which he expects there from *Germany*, and the Levies and Recruits which are raising in several Places; that 'tis easie to see, that provided the said Marquis prevailing on the Complaisance which he knows that the King has for all the Princes, which his Majesty has so willingly accepted for Mediators, could tye the Hands of his said Majesty for the two next Months; in which he says, he shall be much more unprovided with Forces than in *June*; he will be very little solicitous whether he is own'd or disown'd by *Spain*, in whatever he at present advances not only without Power, but against his ex-

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press Orders, as well with regard to the Acceptation of the Alternative, as the fixing the Place of assembling at *Aix la Chapelle*.

That concerning the first Point, all the Advices from *Madrid* of the 25th of *February*, the Day on which the Courier left that Place, unanimously bring with them, that after the Ratification of the *Portuguese* Peace was sent to *Lisbon*, and that Don *John* of *Austria* had given his Word to set out without fail on the first of *March*, the Ministers could not bear the mention only of the word *Alternative*; and the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* not being ignorant of their Sentiments on this Point, and believing yet that the better to serve the King his Master, he ought in appearance to fall into a Conduct directly contrary to his Orders: He at first only express'd himself in a very confus'd manner concerning the said Alternative, by a general Acceptation of both the Offers made him, and when he found himself so earnestly press'd by the Ministers of *England* and *Holland*, that he saw no more room for shifting, he declar'd in truth that he would farther explain himself by a Declaration (which he pleas'd to date on the 6th of *March*, tho' we did not receive it here 'till the 21st,) but 'tis done only in Terms which are captious, and liable to a double Meaning: They are as follow,

I accept and admit, without Reserve, and sincerely, to treat and conclude, concerning what France has possess'd to the time of the Declaration which he has made to the said Lords Mediators, conditionally that it restore all Things to the same Posture in which they were, without any Alteration.

His Majesty leaves to the just Judgment of the said Legation, to decide whether the Expressions us'd by the said Marquis, *I accept to treat and conclude on what France has occup'y'd*, are meant to express without ambiguity, or any mental Reserve which may be produc'd in time and place, that the King his Master shall yield to *France* what his Majesty's Army have possess'd

had the last Campaign in the *Low-Countries*, as it was necessary to be said plainly, since to engage to treat and conclude on a thing is not to say to be willing to yield it; but is even rather to express a willingness to Dispute and Contest it.

His said Majesty leaves to the Judgment of the Legation to declare whether to accommodate to a Proposition what really tends to destroy it, is plainly and without reserve to accept it: The said Marquiss must doubtless have known the Orders which his Majesty long since gave, for the demolishing of all the Fortifications of *Dole* and *Grey*, which were not less in his Power, without any Persons being able to contradict him, since he had rendred himself Master of them; and from the Knowledge of this, the said Marquiss taking away with one Hand what he tender'd with the other, has accepted the said Alternative, but on Condition that the King restore the *Franche Comte* in the same State which he found it, which is at this time impracticable after the Demolition of the Fortifications of *Dole* and *Grey*.

As for the Place of meeting, Cardinal *Visconti*, his Holiness' Nuncio in *Spain*, wrote again on the 28th of *February* to the Abbot *Vibo*, who transacts the Affairs of the Holy See here, that at *Madrid* they would not hear of *Aix la Chapelle*, and that if *France* did not give its Consent to treat of the Peace at *Rome*, he saw no way left to bring the Parties to agree on the Place of meeting; but yet in a Paper which the Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo* deliver'd two or three Days since to the Ministers of *England* and *Holland*, he attests that he has Letters from the Queen his Mistress, of the 12th, 18th, 24th of *January*, and 7th of *February*, by which she agrees to what he had answer'd to his Holiness' Nuncio, in naming the City of *Aix* to negotiate there; and what is not less remarkable (notwithstanding this Letter of the 12th of *January*, which the said Marquiss pretends to have) the said Queen wrote on the 16th of the said Month to the Electors and

and Princes of the Empire assembled at *Collen*, that she has long since remitted the whole Affair into the Hands of the Pope to be treated at *Rome*; and this Letter of the 16th was not given to the Courier of the said Electors and Princes on the 28th, and also that the said Courier did not set out 'till the 25th of *February*; is it possible to believe; or even barely probable, that if the Queen of *Spain* had written on the 12th of *January* to the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, that she approv'd the Choice of the City of *Aix*; the said Queen writing four Days after to the Electors and Princes of the Empire, would not have given them the Satisfaction of informing them that she was willing to treat of Peace in their Neighbourhood, where they might exercise their Mediation which she accepted, and not again refer the whole Affair to *Rome* to be treated, as the said Letter says, and also employ two Pages in writing to prove that she could not treat elsewhere. His Majesty, in the third place, leaves to the Judgment of the said Legation, to decide whether by the general Clause of the pretended Power of the said Marquis, the Preamble of which he did not dare venture to shew to the Ministers of *England* and *Holland*, because 'tis conceiv'd rather in the Terms of a Libel against *France*, than of a Power to treat on the Peace; the Queen, his Mistress, having said that he may act as she her self would do; it follows that she has given him a Faculty to Subdelegate another in his place with the same Power, as tho' this Faculty was not expressly specify'd: The King's Plenipotentiaries at *Munster*, those of his Majesty at *Breda*, and Monsieur *Colbert* himself, in order to go to *Aix*, had in their Powers the same Clause of doing all that the King himself could do if he were there in Person; but would those of the Emperor and the King of *Great Britain* have been satisfy'd that they could with Validity treat with the Subdelegates of his Majesty's Plenipotentiaries, and would the latter have dar'd to have pretended to it? Kings grant these Powers with especial regard to

the Sufficiency, Fidelity and Industry of the Person which they chuse; but without any particular Expression of their Pleasure: They never mean that this Plenipotentiary can give Power to another, who most frequently has not the same Qualities to serve them well; and if this Rule takes place in the Practice of the Law, with regard to bare *Proctor's* and *Mandamus's* in things of small Importance, with how much Reason ought it to be observ'd, when the Question turns on the Alienation of the Dominions, and the Cession of Sovereignities.

This whole Procedure of the said Marquis (tho' doubtless tending, according to what he believes, to the greatest Advantage to his Master's Affairs, in which he is very commendable) is full of Rubs, Contradictions, Artifices and Defects in the Power, and in short tends to no other end than gaining of time; to make room in the interim for the arrival of Don *John of Austria*, and the assistance from *Germany*, and the new Levies and Recruits; his Majesty cannot, if he will follow the Rules of Prudence, grant what without these so powerful Considerations he would very willingly give for the Promotion of the Peace; but rather ought to oblige him so much the more to precaution himself against all Surprises, for the greater Security of even the Peace its self.

But yet his Majesty, to evidence more and more with what sincerity he proceeds on in the Road to Peace, and that he desires also to gain even the least Moments of a time which for the future will be so precious, declares in the first place to the Legation of the Electors and Princes of the Empire, that for his Satisfaction, on account of the Dues devolv'd on the Queen, he will content himself yet to the 15th of *May* inclusive, with one of the two Alternatives which he has already offer'd to content himself with 'till the last of *March*, on Condition that the Treaty to be made on this Affair, betwixt him and the *Spaniards*, be sign'd, ratify'd, and the Ratifications exchange'd before the
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sixteenth of *May*; in which 'tis observable that the Term which his Majesty prescribes is more than sufficient for all that is to be done, if the acceptance which the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* has already made of one of the Alternatives was sincere, and conform'd to his Orders; for a Courier may go from *Paris* to *Madrid* in seven Days, and from the 19th of *March*, on which his Majesty for the first time made the same Declaration to the Ministers of *England* and *Holland*, to the 15th of *May*, is fifty seven Days.

In the second place, that his Majesty, to make appear the sincerity of this Declaration, is ready without delay to make a Treaty with the King of *Great Britain* and the States-General, on the full Power which their Ministers have here, by which he will oblige himself to be contented with the said Alternative 'till the said 15th day of *May* inclusively, in which Treaty shall be inserted Word for Word the Treaty of Peace to be made betwixt him and the *Spaniards*, on the Foundation of the said Alternatives; the said Lord the King and the said Lords the States, that he will faithfully restore to the King of *Spain*, and the Ratification of *Spain* in such time that the latter may be exchange'd before the 16th of *May*.

In the third place, that his Majesty from this present gives his Royal Word to our Holy Father the Pope, to all Kings, Electors and Princes of the Empire, and other Potentates, and if desir'd, will compose an Article conform to this in the Treaty which he offers to make with the said King of *Great Britain*, and the said Lords States, that he will faithfully restore to the King of *Spain* all the Places and Posts which his Arms may have occupy'd from the last Day of *March*, on which the Suspension of Enterprises will cease 'till the said 15th of *May*, of higher or more advantageous Conditions of Peace than those of the two Alternatives, provided that the *Spaniards*, as has been said, have then consented to yield to him one of them, and that

the Ratifications of the Treaty which he shall have made with them, be exchange'd before the 16th of *May*.

His Majesty is perswaded that the Legation of the Electors and Princes of the Empire assembled at *Collen*, will own that they could scarce venture to hope for such great, such important, and so favourable Declarations for the Accommodation, nay even for the Conclusion of the Peace, as those contain'd in this Paper; since without being oblig'd to any thing beyond the end of *March*, he again puts the Peace into the Hands of the Mediators 'till the 15th of *May*, on the same Conditions of the Alternatives, as tho' he had forgotten that his Arms have conquer'd the *Franche Comte*; and he speaks clearly without ambiguity or captious Terms, being willing to give to all Christendom new effectual Proofs, both of the sincerity with which he desires the speedy Re-establishment of the publick Peace, and of a great Moderation in the Conditions of the Accommodation; and desiring that the *Spaniards* will take the Advantage of one or the other in a space of time, which, as has been already observ'd, is more than sufficient to render effectual his good Intentions. But yet Monsieur *Colbert* sets out to Morrow to take the largest Days Journey that he can to *Aix la Chapelle*, with no other Coach than that which he wants to carry him thither, causing the rest of his Equipage to follow him; and he had arriv'd at the place of Meeting above a Month since, if the Pass which he wanted, and which might have came in two Days from *Brussels*, had not been retarded from the middle of *February*, when 'twas demanded, to the 16th of *March*, when it was receiv'd; but the *Spaniards*, who would gain by a Suspension the Month of *June*, had too much Interest not to put themselves into a State to be press'd to treat and conclude in *March*. Acted at *St. Germain en Laye*, *March* 22, 1668.

Signed, De Lionne.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 28, 1668.

TWould be difficult to write you all that pass'd betwixt Monsieur *de Wit* and me, in three Hours that he was at my House; I shall only give you an Account of what I think must be important, that I may not lose the Opportunity of the departure of the Extraordinary Courier which he dispatches to Monsieur *van Beuningen*. He has in my Presence several times seen the Memorial which is address'd to the Electors of the Empire, and the Refusal which the King made of prolonging the Suspension of Arms 'till the end of *May*: He told me, that with great Grief he saw the *Spaniards* Design succeed, the only intent of which was to divide us; that *Castel Rodrigo* having accepted the Alternative of the conquer'd Places, and the States obliging themselves to make him sign the Treaty, and make the Queen of *Spain* own it, and to get the Ratification, the King could not doubt of the success of the Peace: That he had brought the King of *England* and the States to cause their Deputies to speak in a high and rough manner to the Marquiss, and with menacing to break, if he did not accept of the Alternative, assuring him in that case of a Peace: That after having forc'd him to consent to every thing, he saw the King resolv'd to attack him, contrary to the Assurances which the said States and *England* have given him, that after the acceptance of the Alternative the Peace should be secure.

That the doubt which his Majesty has, that he does not act sincerely, cannot be remov'd 'till after the signing, and that in that case the States and *England* oblige themselves to a Rupture in case of the Queen's disowning it, and the Marquiss flying from it: That if the mention'd Marquiss will hunt after any wrangling Shift, whether a deficiency in the Power, or from what

is allēdg'd in the Memorial concerning the razing of *Dole* and *Grey*, the States will immediately take that for a Refusal, and will enter jointly with the King into *Flanders* with all their Army, as having broke his Word; that to hasten Affairs the more, the States dispatch a Courier directly to *Spain*, and write to the Queen, that they entreat her to own all that *Castel Rodrigo* has promis'd to do, as well concerning the Place of *Aix*, as on the Alternative, and to send her Ratification when the Treaty shall be sign'd, they not being able to defer one Day from declaring against *Spain*, if it defers approving what the Marquiss shall have done, and sending the Ratification. The *Sieur de Wit* farther added to me in the most pressing Terms, That if the King, having so many effectual Securities, that the Peace is in his Hands, refuses the Suspension of Arms till the 15th of *May*, there will not be a Man which will not believe that his Intention was far from ever concluding it, since the Question is not now any longer concerning the acting by Arms to oblige the *Spaniards* to agree to the said Alternative, which they agree to in the Form which he demands.

That he well knew, that the greatest Misfortune which could happen to the States, was that of falling out with *France*; but that it was inevitable, the King resolving to attack the *Netherlands*, after they had depriv'd the *Spaniards* of all manner of foreign Assistance, and that they had oblig'd them to lay down their Arms, by forcing them to accept of the Conditions which the King demanded, by assuring them, that on that Condition the King should give them Peace; that he had been the first to bring the Province of *Holland* to declare its self against *Spain*, if it did not give the King Satisfaction; that this Province has persever'd in the same Opinion, he (the *Sieur de Wit*) having always assur'd them, that his Majesty would give them Peace, on Condition of this Satisfaction of the Alternative; and that he is at present more perplex'd than any Man, as well with regard to the States, as to *England* and the *Spaniards*.

niards, who charge him with having abus'd them, in the Hopes which he has given them of Peace; and that the King would content himself with the propos'd Conditions; that he prays you, Sir, to cause the King to consider, that this Affair will entirely discredit him, and give room to the Advice which you have had from *England*, of which he has some Knowledge; that his Majesty would reflect on the small Fruit which he will draw from attacking a Country already vanquish'd, and which will have no other Defence than that which 'twill demand of the States and the *English*, who have amus'd and forc'd them to yield to what their Enemies demand-ed of them to obtain Peace; and the unhappy Measures which his Majesty plunges the States into, and which they cannot avoid, the King attacking *Flanders* after the Acceptance of the Alternative, and the Securitics which they will give him to oblige the Queen of *Spain* to agree to ratify it, on Condition of the Suspension of Arms propos'd, which is the shortest time that can possibly be taken; instead of which, that if the King contents himself with the Suspension of Arms, on Condition of the Securities which the States will give him by a Treaty to break with *Spain*, on all the dubious Cases mention'd in the Memorial, he could assure his Majesty, that the States would be oblig'd to him to the last Degree for his Relaxation, and that he in particular would return into the Favour of his Province, which he could not avoid the loss of, if Affairs took another Face; it being impossible for him to resist the Cabals which are against him, and the Reproaches which the Provinces would cast on him in the Engagement in which the States are forc'd to enter to assist the *Spaniards*, rather than see the Loss of the *Netherlands*.

I answer'd him, That it had been more to the purpose, that these Reflections had preceded the Treaty of League made with *England*; that he was not ignorant that I told him every Post, that he should make use of the time to press the *Spaniards* to explain themselves, and that the King would enter on Action with his Armies

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on the first of *April*, and that he would not prolong the Suspension of Arms.

But yet his Majesty has the Goodness to grant it, by promising to restore the Places which he shall take 'till the 15th of *May*, in case that the *Spaniards* accept the Alternative; that the Reasons contain'd in the Memorial, and in your Dispatch, were so forcible to engage us not to rely on all that *Castel Rodrigo* has done and promis'd, that I was surpriz'd that so able a Man as he should suffer himself to be perswaded that the Marquis acts sincerely.

That there are Proofs enough with what Affection the King has supported their Interests in past Times, to prevent doubting that he will not do it again in Occasions in which 'twill be necessary; but to speak sincerely to him, how can one reconcile all that he had said to me, with the Powers which have been sent to the Ambassadors which are in *England*, to conclude with the Count of *Dhana*, and engage in a League on yet stronger Conditions than those at the *Hague*; that is to say, that the States prepare and resolve to join with the *Spaniards*, and break with *France*,

That could he answer me, on the Orders given to their Deputies at *Brussels*, to conclude with *Castel Rodrigo* for the Engagement of the Places and Tolls on the *Scheld* and *Maes*, on Condition of a Loan of Four Millions of Livres, which the King would take for a Rupture and Infraction of the Treaties of 1662, and the honest Sincerity which the King had us'd towards the States in the great Assistances which his Majesty has given them, as well against the King of *England*, as against the Bishop of *Munster*; that I pray'd him to dispence with my writing to you on this Affair, the past Events sufficiently convincing me, that we must not judge on Words, but Actions. He reply'd, That their Deputies would not talk with *Castel Rodrigo* on this Engagement, till the States should see themselves reduc'd to the Extremity of relieving the *Netherlands*, that they may not see them lost; and that the Treaty of the

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Count *de Dhona* would not neither any more than the other be executed till after that the King of *England* and the States should have lost all Hopes of obtaining the Suspension of Arms, by giving the King all the Securities which he desires for Peace. He then said to me, That he would entreat you to take no notice of the Passions of Monsieur *van Beuningen*, who is naturally warm, but to have the Goodness to send for him an Hour after, and that you would find him wholly chang'd, and that he will be sorry for all that shall have past; he has carry'd himself several times so with him, and he has always brought him back to Reason.

I see, Sir, these People here take the way to their Destruction. If the King's Armies can be in the Field on the 15th of *April*, they may act without Opposition, till the End of *May*: The States Army will not venture to appear in the Field, but they will certainly detach Bodies to put into the Towns which are Frontiers to them, and lend Money to the *Spaniards*. This Step being taken, I would entreat you, Sir, to order me, whether the King desire that I remove; and inform me whether he will not think it proper for me to go out of this Country, after some Action of Rupture by the States.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: March 29, 1668.

SINCE the Letter which I gave my self the Honour to write you yesterday by the Return of Monsieur *van Beuningen's* Courier, Affairs are become so hot here, that the Provinces of *Utrecht*, *Gröningen*, *Gelderland* and *Overyssel* are of Opinion to assist the *Spaniards*, since the King refuses the Suspension of Arms till the End of *May*. The Provinces of *Holland* and *Zealand* are of another Opinion, and say, that 'tis necessary to
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pray the King to grant only the time which is requisite from the signing to the Exchange of the Ratifications, and that to be computed as exact as possible. In short, Sir, we hear of nothing here but Propositions of strict Leagues and Alliances betwixt *Spain, England, Sweden,* and the States; the warmest of them are the greatest Enemies to *Monseigneur de Wis*, and the greatest Friends to the House of *Orange*, which confirms *Monseigneur de Wis* in the Advice you have given him. I know that he is very much perplex'd, and will, perhaps, be forc'd to follow the Current of Affairs, and to accommodate with the contrary Party, which has caus'd Overtures to be made to him an Hour since. Such a Confusion was never seen as that amongst the States; they have alter'd ten times, within the last two days, the Rendezvous of their Troops; now they will have their Army all together, since the Provinces of *Gelderland, Groningen* and *Overyssel* say, that the Bishop of *Munster*, who is agreed with *France*, arms; and that they will detain the Troops which are in their Cities, for their Defence. The States have sent their Deputies to me, to represent to me the Regret which they have to see the King remov'd from the Thoughts of Peace, and inclin'd to render himself Master of the *Netherlands*, in a time when *Castel Rodrigo* submits to agree to the Conditions impos'd on him; that the *Spanish* Ambassador had visited all the Deputies of the Provinces, to assure them, that not only *Castel Rodrigo* would sign all that the States would have him, but that he assur'd them, that the Queen of *Spain* would ratifie all that should be agreed in the Treaty; and further, that they pray'd him not abandon them in the Design which *France* had to surprize and oppress them; that if the Intention of *France* was sincere, it would not break the Treaty when there is no more time to wait than that of a Courier to bring the Ratification; that they would willingly hope from the King's Generosity, that he will be pleas'd to grant them this Suspension of Arms, without which, Peace is not to be hop'd for, but on the contrary, they must expect

expect to see a Fire lighted in Christendom, which would not go out in many Years.

I answer'd them, That the King acted with so much Sincerity for the Interest of the Peace, that no more was necessary than to read the Answer which his Majesty made to the Electors, where they would find Reasons, which are so forcible against the granting the Suspension of Arms, which they ask'd, that his Majesty could not do it, at least without ruining his Affairs, and putting the Peace farther off; that what he propos'd was beyond what the Allies could hope for; that those who reject what they offer, will be the only Party culpable of this Fire, which they mention'd to be going to kindle in Christendom.

That I pray'd them to reflect seriously on all the Talk of the *Spaniards*, and on their Conduct, which had no other End than to bring the States to quarrel with *France*, and leave them, after the Expence and Charges of a great War, with the Reproach of leaving the Alliance of the King, to whom they have so much Obligation; that this Step being taken, 'twould be hard to return; that I pray'd them to make use of their Prudence, and not to precipitate into violent Resolutions, which tend to the helping the *Spaniards* contrary to the Faith of our Treaties, as there is a Report already spread in the *Hague*, and in their Assembly.

This is all that pass'd betwixt us. They did not seem better satisfied with me than I was with them. Monsieur *van Beuningen* wrote to them to take their Measures. If I had as much Reason to be satisfied with the Conduct of the States, as they ought to be with that of the King, and with all that you said to him, he would write quite otherwise. Tho' you have no need of my giving you Advice, I will yet tell you, Sir, that the King is to expect a speedy Declaration of the States against *France*; that Couriers set out every Moment for *England* and *Brussels*, and that Orders are given to their Ministers to make a strict League betwixt *England*, *Spain*, *Sweden* and them, against the King's

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Designs. You judge right, Sir, that after all this, the Propositions which are made, are but Amusements: Take it for certain, that all the Allies together cannot shew themselves in the Field in two Months, and that the King will have, all the necessary time to accomplish a great Design. Monsieur *de Wit* will meet with a great deal of Difficulty to support himself in the Credit which he was, not that I don't think but that in the Want which they will have of him, in the War in which the States are engag'd, the Cabals contrary to his, which will probably be uppermost, will make use of him, till they can be without him. This, Sir, is the true Posture of Affairs in this Country. I hope the King will give me Order to withdraw, on the first Step which they shall make against *France*.

I make no doubt but that they will break all our Regiments; we may form three out of the five, which are in the Service, which will be compos'd of very good Officers; they will bring home the Choice of all who are in the *French* Troops, and then there will be few Regiments in *France* better than these three: If the King should be of this mind, 'twould be necessary to advertise me betimes. I think also, that 'twould be advantageous to the King to prevent the breaking of the *French* Body; and the Rupture happening, his Majesty may demand them, pursuant to the Import of the first Treaties, That in case of a Misunderstanding betwixt *France* and the States, the King may withdraw his Troops, and they are to furnish them with Ships to transport them to *France*.

The Letters from the States Ambassadors which are in *England*, contain, That the King of *England* is firmly perswaded, that the King does not intend a Peace, and that all that his Majesty alledges concerning the Loss of time by the Negligence of the *Spaniards*, is only a Pretext to avoid the Conclusion of it. The King of *England* persists in the Resolution of executing the whole Contents of the Treaty made at the *Hague* on the 23d of *January*, betwixt him and the States; from whence

we may draw one Consequence, which is, That the Rupture with *France* is resolv'd on betwixt them, and that they are engaging in an entire Alliance with the *Spaniards*, these Expressions of the King of *England* being very conform to what has pass'd at the *Hague*.

Monsieur *de Zuylichem* is not yet return'd, the Affairs of the Prince of *Orange* keeping him in *Zealand*. I hint this to you, to shew that I don't forget the Affair of the Bishop of *Orange*.

Monsieur *d'Amerongen* set out yesterday to go to the Bishop of *Munster*, and to desire of him the Passage of the Troops of the Duke of *Lunenbourg* thro' his Country. Monsieur *de Zuylestein*, a Lieutenant-General, is to command them, in case that the projected Treaty be executed.

Monsieur *de Beverning* sets out to morrow for *Aix*, with the Character of Plenipotentiary for the Peace, but is not perswaded that 'twill be concluded.

Monsieur *de Wicquefort* pray'd me to tell you, that whatever happen'd, he will always continue in the Interests of *France*, and is very much your Servant.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: March 30, 1668.

I Take the Opportunity of a Courier which Monsieur *van Benningen* dispatches to the *Hague*, to inform you succinctly of the Substance of what pass'd in the Conference which the Commissioners had yesterday Morning with the said Sieur *van Benningen* and *Trevor*.

These Gentlemen the Day before had made pressing Instances to obtain of his Majesty, that he would please to agree to the Prolongation of the Suspension of Enterprizes till the End of *May*. The Answer which we gave them, was, That the King could not explain himself on this Demand, unless he first knew the Pre-

tensions of the King of *Great Britain* and the States, concerning the Manner in which they intended to act in Conjunction on the first Day of *June*, as well in War as on the Conditions of Peace, which ought then to differ from the present two Alternatives, if the *Spaniards* shall not have consented to the Peace betwixt this time and that.

These Gentlemen answer'd, That they had no Instructions from their Masters on these two Points, but that if his Majesty would clearly express what he could desire of both of them, they would write by express Couriers.

We reply'd, That to bring about all Means of facilitating the Peace, we would make no Difficulty of declaring to them what the King desir'd on these two Points, on the first of *June*, in case that the *Spaniards* should refuse to have made Peace betwixt this and that time; and accordingly we then told them, That as for the Hostilities, his Majesty understands, that he be then free to act with all the Forces that he shall please, without having impos'd on him any Necessity, which is what so much displeas'd him in the *Hague-Treaty*; and that the Allies send at the same time Thirty thousand Men, or such a Number as shall be agreed on, to force the *Spaniards* to a Peace.

As for the Conditions of Peace, that his Majesty will oblige himself, for the Months of *June* and *July*, by the Treaty which we may together conclude, to two other Alternatives, provided that the Allies oblige themselves from this present to him, to make them agree to it.

That the first Member of the new Alternatives be, That the *Spaniards* yield to the King, besides the Conquests of the last Campaign, the *Franche Comte* and *Cambray*.

That the second be the same which his Majesty has hitherto demanded for the Equivalent, to which to be added the whole Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, or *Tournay* and *Lisle*, at the Choice of the *Spaniards*.

That

That on Condition of one of these two new Alternatives, which is to be yielded to him by the *Spaniards*, his Majesty will restore all that his Arms may have taken from them to the End of *July*.

These Gentlemen could not deny that it ought to cost the *Spaniards* something, if they refus'd the Peace betwixt this and the End of *May*; and also that his Majesty did not act on the Foot of Reason, in augmenting the Satisfaction to the End of *July*; but they press'd us extremely to draw from us sufficient Grounds for them to assure their Masters, that in case they agreed to join in Concert with the King on the two new Alternatives, in the common Action of Arms against the *Spaniards*, his Majesty would agree to the Cessation of Enterprizes till the End of *May*.

We continually answer'd, That the King had not himself consider'd on this Suspension, because his Majesty, before declaring himself, desir'd to know what their Masters would do on the two new Alternatives. We also gave them many Reasons to convince them, that his Majesty could not take any other Measures; but you may privately, and in Confidence, tell Monsieur *de Wit*, as I writ at the same time to Monsieur *de Ru-vigny*, that he may tell the King of *England*, That provided that we can agree on the two Points above, his Majesty will grant the Cessation of Enterprizes till the End of *May*, which is what could not have been express'd here to these two Ministers, without the King's remarkably discouraging his Troops, by the Opinion which all the Military People would instantly conceive that the Peace was already made. I forgot to tell you, that to point out with the Finger, that the King's Intention for the Peace is sincere, and that he will not wrangle on the Terms of the Treaty with the *Spaniards*; we not only shew'd, but also deliver'd a Project which I have drawn up, in which Messieurs *van Beuningen* and *Trevor* have found but a few Words to alter, which we immediately chang'd for those which they desir'd. Thus the Peace is intirely in the Hands of Monsieur *de*
Q q 2 *Wit*;

Wit; for if we take Measures together, the *Spaniards* themselves will not delay the Conclusion 'till the end of *May*, seeing that their *Obstinacy* must cost them dear, when the first of *June* comes.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: April 5, 1668.

I Receiv'd, Sir, your Dispatch of the 30th of the last Month. At another time the King's Project had been receiv'd with a better Grace than it has. The Provinces take the two Points to be contrary to the Treaty which the States have made with *England*, and that to consent to them is to quit the Engagement which they are enter'd into with him. Monsieur *de Wit*, and *Holland*, were of Opinion to step over this Consideration, and to send the Project, so as 'tis couch'd, to their Deputies at *Brussels*, and order them to present them to *Castel Rodrigo*, and press him to sign it, as being a Relative to the Alternative, which was carry'd after many Contentts. You cannot, Sir, believe the Divisions which arose amongst the States on the Debates: Monsieur *de Wit* manag'd himself cautiously, and seeing that they secretly attack'd him on several Heads, kept himself close to *Holland*, without too freely touching beyond that; he daily experiences the Truth of the Advice which you have given him. In the Conference which we had on your Dispatch, he told me, that considering the Inclinations of the States, if he had been in Monsieur *van Beuningen's* place, he had entreated you to allow that he and Monsieur *Trevor* might say, that they had presented the said Project, as being drawn up by them, and that you had answer'd them that you would have done what you could to engage the King to agree to it; that the said Project being sent to the States as their Performance, had pass'd without Difficulty and Opposition; but coming
from

from the King, the Deputies of the Provinces immediately rais'd Difficulties on the Novelty of it, and propos'd to know the Intention of the King of *England* and the *Spaniards* on it: These are the Provinces of *Utrecht, Gelderland, Friseland, Groningen* and *Overyffel*: All that Monsieur *de Wit* could do, was to get *Holland* to resolve that the said Project should be sent to *Brussels* to their Deputies, as valid and relative to the Alternative, and that they should dispatch a Courier to the King of *England*, to pray him to agree to it. The *Sieur de Wit* prays you not to lose any time in soliciting the King of *England*, not to raise any Difficulty against that Project, on account of the Terms of their Treaty: Monsieur *van Benningen* is to express himself more particularly to you on this Subject.

He thinks it best to pass over all things, if the *King* agrees to the Suspension of Enterprises to the end of *May*, and that if the Treaty and Ratification are not sign'd by that time, by reason of the Disputes which happen, which delay Affairs, the King should give them fifteen Days time to enter into their Country with the *English*, to attack them, and signify to them that 'tis because their Ratification did not come in due Form; and they will oblige themselves to the King to procure for him that Alternative which is more advantageous to him, without its being any longer at the choice of the *Spaniards* to pitch on the other.

And that if the *Spaniards*, after all these advances, don't give the Ratification, the King and the States shall in concert enter the Enemies Country in order to conquer it, after being agreed on the Attacks to be made, as well to divide their Conquests, as to canton what shall remain of the *Netherlands*, and wholly eject the *Spaniards*, and form a Republick with which the King and the States shall make an Alliance.

The said *Sieur de Wit*, in saying to me all above-mention'd, pray'd me to write to you, that he communicates to you his Opinion on the present Conjunctions, and on the advancement of the Peace, which

cannot but be very glorious for the King, considering the Advantage which he will have to be the sole Person which could do it by his Moderation, and by accommodating to the present State of Affairs, and to the Impediments which the differing Opinions of their Provinces, those of the *English* and the *Spaniards*; and that it signifies little to the King in what manner he gains his End; that the Chastisement which would fall on the *Spaniards* for their Tergiversation would be very great; that the Allies would declare themselves in the time specify'd; that they would no longer have the choice of the Alternative; and that the Allies would declare that they will not make Peace 'till the King has the Places of *Cambray*, *Donay*, *St. Omer*, *Aire*, *Bergues* and *Furnes*, and the *Franche Comte*.

That according to his Scheme, he believ'd he could prevent all the secret Advances which the *Spaniards* make to endeavour to separate them from *France*, whether by obliging the *English* to raise Difficulties on the King's Propositions, as contravening to their Treaty, or drawing the Provinces of *Gelderland*, *Friseland*, *Groningen*, *Overyssel* and *Utrecht* into the Engagement of the Places of *Gelder*, *Venlo*, *Ruremond*, *Navagne*, *Argentan* and *Stevenswaerd*, with all the upper part of *Gelderland*, and the Forts *St. Donas*, *St. Job* and *Isabella* which are in the Country about *Sluys*, to support the Refusal which the *Spaniards* will make of the mention'd Provinces to *Spain*.

That to compass that End, *Holland* seeing the great desire which the said Provinces have to conclude this Engagement for the Sum of four Millions, has declar'd, That it could not consent, after the Declaration which I had made, that if in this Conjunction they should furnish the *Spaniards*, on any Pretence whatsoever, with Money which would be employ'd to make War against the King, I should protest against it as a manifest Rupture with *France*; which stopp'd the signing of it; but that he believ'd that if the States could dispose the *Spaniards* to deliver them those Places with-

out Mony, and it should be specify'd in the Treaty, that they should not deliver the said Sum mention'd in the Agreement, before the *Spaniards* have sign'd the Treaty of the Alternative; and that the Ratification being come, there would be nothing in it, prejudicial to the King's Interests, and the States would secure themselves of these Places and Countries which are of great Importance to them to cover their Frontiers, and in which all these Provinces above-mention'd are very much interested.

He thinks also, that by acting and managing in the manner which he said, we should soon discover whether the *English* sincerely wish the Peace; for if after the Term of the end of *May* expires, they fly back from entering with the States arm'd, during the fifteen Days of *June*, the States will be discharg'd of the Engagement which they entered into with them by the *Hague* Treaty, they having been the first in breaking of it, and act alone with the King; if also they execute it, he thinks the King ought to reckon for a great deal this step to be made by *England* and *Holland*, to break with *Spain* effectually, from the first of *June*, without any recoiling; and that this Advantage was very well worth the Request which the Allies make to the King, to have the Complaisance, in order to adjust Affairs, to forbear entering with his Armies into the Enemies Country to act there by force, 'till the time which they desire for the greater Security of the Peace.

But also, that if it happens that betwixt this and the end of *May*, the *Spaniards* come to refuse the Alternative, as the Advices which the King has receiv'd are, that the Queen of *Spain* and her Council will not give ear to it; in this case there will be no farther Consideration, but the leagu'd Potentates will enter with their Arms into the *Netherlands* jointly or separately with the King, to attack and conquer them on account of the Infraction of the Peace.

Tho' the *Sieur de Wit* was very much indispos'd with a great Cold, and a Defluxion on his Breast, which has brought on him a slight Fever, he was notwithstanding employ'd the whole Day; but I assure you, that the Cabals which are against him, and which grow stronger every Day, give him more Uneasiness than Foreign Affairs, because they directly attack his Person, and by reason that the Incidents which will happen on what is at present under Treaty will reflect back on him; and he very well knows that if the Peace be not concluded, that the *English*, the *Spaniards* and ill-meaning Party of the State, may pretend that 'tis broken because the King demands new Conditions, by which he shews that he will not be contented with the Alternative, that he the said *Sieur de Wit* shall meet with a great deal of difficulty to keep the Post which he is at present in Possession of.

I should tell you, Sir, succinctly, that on all our Conferences, I answer'd him, that the two Points mention'd in the King's Project are Penalties impos'd on the *Spaniards*, in case they either refuse or prolong the signing of the Treaty or the Ratification; to which they will not be liable, if they speedily terminate the said Treaty; and that it appears to me, that the Allies cannot have more just Proofs of the King's sincerity, and of his desire of Peace, than what has pass'd on his part in the last Conference which was held at *Paris* with their Ministers, since Monsieur *van Zenningen* must have talk'd with you to the bottom on all the Thoughts of Monsieur *de Wit*, after which Affairs will be regulated; I could not help telling him mine, which are, that since the King contrary to all appearance order'd me to tell him in private, that he would prolong the Suspension of Enterprises to the end of *May*, on the Conditions contain'd in his Majesty's Project, I thought that the Allies would be guilty of a great Fault not to take the King at his Word, they having the Peace in their Hands. Our Conversation ended with this.

From

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: April 6, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch on the 28th of the last Month, by Monsieur *van Benningen's* Courier, and afterwards, by the Post that of the 29th; neither the one nor the other require any punctual Answer, and all arguing ought to be referr'd to what the return of the last Courier which Monsieur *van Benningen* dispatch'd, will bring us, by which I wrote you in Substance, what had pass'd in our two last Conferences, and added a very essential Hint to Monsieur *de Wit* only, with which we would not here acquaint Monsieur *van Benningen*, for the Reasons which I mark'd to you.

You may say only to Monsieur *de Wit*, that I don't believe that he will find Monsieur *Bergeyck* so easie to sign the Peace: He will find by Experience that *Castel Rodrigo* never had any other design in all these steps which he has been forc'd to make, than to amuse us all, continually hoping that by some Difficulties which *France* would make about entirely conforming its self to what the League at the *Hague* would prescribe to his Majesty, he should at last find some way of discharging himself of the load of the War, and throwing the greatest part of it to be born by the Purse and Forces of the States: You will soon see that *Bergeyck* will tediously delay the signing on divers sorry Pretexts, whereas on the contray Monsieur *Colbert* has Orders to sign the Peace from the very Day of his arrival, if he can, without sticking at all the so essential Faults in the Power of the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, and of his Subdelegation.

The King thinks he ought not to take any Resolution, either concerning the *French* Regiments which are in the States Service, or on your return, 'till after having seen what Monsieur *van Benningen's* Courier brings,

brings, and then his Majesty will take care to send you his Intentions on both Points.

A Treaty by which Spain engages several Towns to the United-Provinces, for the Sums which the said Provinces furnish them. Concluded at the Hague, April 9, 1668.

BE it known unto all and every one whom it shall concern, that between us undersign'd, Don *Estevan de Gamarra*, &c. Ambassador in Ordinary from the King of Spain, and the Lord Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo*, Governor and Captain-General on the part of the said King in the *Netherlands*, by his Majesty especially authoriz'd for what follows, on the one Part: And the Deputies of the Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces*, on the Part of their High Mightinesses, alike provided with suitable Power and Authority, on the other Part; have agreed and concluded, as are agreed and concluded by these Presents, the following Points and Articles.

I. That their High Mightinesses shall interpose their Credit and Authority in the most valid Form, to the end to negotiate by *N. N.* to the Profit of the said King of Spain, a Sum of two Millions of *Livres*, at forty *Groos* the *Livre*, of the Mony of *Holland*, at five *per Cent. per Ann.* Interest, to be paid here at the *Hague* or *Amsterdam*, to him whom the abovesaid Marquiss shall authorize for that Purpose, without, that for the raising of the said Mony, for the Dues of Brokerage or other the like Charges, any thing shall be put to his Majesty's Accompt. For the Security of which Principal and Interest of the same shall be pass'd to *N. N.* provisionally an Obligation, in the best and most
secure

secure Form, by the above-said Lord Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* in the above-said Quality, as also by the above-said King, or by the said Queen in his Majesty's Name:

II. That the above-said King shall annually make Payment of the Interests falling Due on the said Principal to the said *N. N.* or shall take Care that they be paid by the above-said Lord *Gamarra*, or by such other Minister which shall be then in Employ, which his Majesty shall please to Authorize.

III. And if the present Indisposition of the above-said King, or some other Difficulty which may happen, occasions an Impossibility of making Payment of the said Interests to the above-said *N. N.* with the Punctuality which is requisite for the Preservation of the Credit of these Countries, and according to usual Practice in the like Cases; that their High Mightinesses, to facilitate the said Levy, and for the Security of those which to the above-said Ends shall entrust their Mony to the said *N. N.* in this unexpected Case; they engage from the present as well as for then, as actually they engage themselves in the said Case by these Presents, again to interpose their Credit for the raising of the Principal, which he that shall be authoriz'd by the above-said King shall have occasion for, for the Payment of the due Interests, and that also in such manner that there shall be likewise Security for those who shall lend their Mony, as well for the Principal and the Interests, as for the above-said two Millions of *Livres*, and the Interests on them here above more amply express'd.

IV. And as for the advancement of the common Interests, a Negotiation is at present on Foot with the Plenipotentiaries of the King of *Sweden*, to provide in such manner that the said King, and that of *Great Britain*, and their High Mightinesses may co-operate so, that Affairs may come to a good Issue; and that perhaps 'twill be necessary to advance some Subsidies to the above-said King, together with other Princes and Potentates, for the advancement of the common Peace; that

that on that Account, if their High Mightinesses, with the Approbation of the Plenipotentiaries of *Spain*, proceed to promise any thing, they will do it also besides the two Millions, on the Accompt of his Majesty the King of *Spain*, by way of Interposition of their Credit, and at a like Interest with that above, which they shall actually cause to be paid to the above-said Lord *Gamarra*, or such other Minister which shall be in charge, and which the said King of *Spain* shall properly authorize, by the Interposition of their Credit, such Sum of Money which his Majesty shall be oblig'd to dispose of for Ammunition of War, and other Provisions; provided that their High Mightinesses be not more oblig'd on account of the Subsidies, than with regard to the Ammunition, without a more express Consent, to exceed the Sum of two Millions more in Principal, with what shall be successively requir'd for the Payment of the Interests, as above.

V. To receive the said Money, as also to pass a proper Obligation and Acquittance likewise as to what is requisite of the Interests, which shall from time to time become due on the said principal Sums, which shall be paid together for the Merchandizes which shall be bought, and by Vertue of the Ratification which shall follow it, from the present, as well as for that time is authoriz'd, the Minister which shall be in Function, and which his said Majesty shall have residing with their High Mightinesses.

VI. And to the end that their High Mightinesses, together with the private Persons which on the Credit of their High Mightinesses shall furnish for the said principal Sums, and the Payment of the growing Interests, may have their Security; and that they be assur'd of the Reimbursement of the said Principals, and the Payment of the Interests of them; that the Castles, Towns, Forts and Places of *Argenteau*, *Navaigne*, *Stevenswaert*, *Venlo*, with the Fort situate on the other side of the *Maes*, *Gelders*, *Isabella* and *St. Donaes*, shall be put under the Power of their High Mightinesses,

ten Days after their signing of this Contract, or sooner if possible; which said Places shall be consequently occupied by the Governors, Commanders and Garrisons of their High Mightinesses, with all the Prerogatives which by Right appertains unto Lords Mortgagees. On Condition that their High Mightinesses, nor their Governors or Commanders of the said Places, shall not, under this Pretext, in any manner intermeddle in the Creation of Magistrates, or any Officer of the Constitution, nor in any thing else which concerns the said Constitution, or the Civil Government and Administration of Justice in the above-said Cities, and other Places in the Champaign Country, but shall in that leave it to the Stadtholder and Captain-General of his Majesty, and the respective Officers and Magistrates to act in these Cases. And the said Mortgage shall continue till the said Sums, together with the due and current Interests shall be re-imburs'd, and that their High Mightinesses be discharg'd of the Interposition of their Credit, and shall besides have receiv'd by the same Means the Money which they shall be in Disburse for the Reinforcement and Defence of the said Places and Forts, whether for the Reparation of old Works, or the new Works which shall be rais'd; as also as well for the Cannon, Ammunition and such other Military Occasions, as for the Defence of the Places shall be us'd or worn out, and which shall be expended, as shall be more amply express'd hereafter. And as for what regards the Garrisons which shall be maintain'd in the said Places, they shall be paid by the *United-Provinces*, and that no more shall be charg'd to the Account of his said Majesty, the King of *Spain*, than Sixteen Companies of Infantry in the whole, each of eighty Men, pursuant to the ordinary Pay of the *United Provinces*, namely, at the Rate of Thirteen hundred and seventy one Livres for forty two Days, during the War. And if it should happen that the said Mortgage should yet continue for some time after this War, that then during the Peace, no more than eight such Companies shall be charg'd to his Majesty's

Majesty's Account, the Surplus of the Garrison remaining at the Expence of their High Mightinesses.

VII. That the above-said Cities, Forts and Places which shall be mortgag'd to their High Mightinesses, shall be provided and arm'd with such Cannon, Powder and other Military Ammunition, as is at present in them, of which an Inventory shall be made, to be answer'd at its time.

VIII. That all the Troops of the King of Spain, which are at present in the said Cities, Forts and Places, shall evacuate them; to the end that the Governors, Commanders and other Officers of this State may command there in all Particulars which regard the shutting and opening of the Gates, the placing of Centinels, going the Rounds, distributing of Orders, and exercising Military Justice and Discipline, and in general, in all which regards the Defence and Safety of the said Cities, Forts, Places, and whatever depends on them. On Condition notwithstanding, that the said Governors, Commanders and other Officers of their High Mightinesses don't concern themselves in the Civil Constitution and Government, any farther than only what may particularly relate to those of the Garrison; and the said Governors and Commanders shall be oblig'd to keep up a good Correspondence with his Majesty's Stadtholder in the Quarter of the *Upper Gelderland*, whose ordinary Place of Residence is to be at *Ruremond*; and the said Governors and Commanders, being thereto requir'd, shall give all necessary Assistance to his Majesty's Receivers, in the levying of the Crown Dues, Licences and Revenues.

IX. That their High Mightinesses shall engage and oblige themselves in the best manner, as they do by these Presents engage and oblige themselves, well to defend the above-said Towns, Forts and Places, and to act vigorously against all and every one whatsoever that would there make any Attempt, with the same Vigour and Ardour that they can do with regard to the Frontier or other Places appertaining to their High Mightinesses,

tinesses, and to take care that the said Towns, Forts and Places be always provided with a good and sufficient Garrison; to which Ends his Majesty shall, to the utmost of his Power, facilitate the Passage of the Troops of their High Mightinesses, either in Egress or Regress, on the Territories of his said Majesty, in order to march into the said Cities, Forts and Places; and if necessary, Advice shall be given in time to his Majesty's Stadtholder, that a Commissary may regulate their Quarters in their Passage or Repassage.

X. That if, with the Communication and Deliberation of the Deputy of the Stadtholder, or the King's Plenipotentiary, it be found proper, for the greater Security of the said Cities and Places, to make several new Works, or to renew the old ones, to build Magazines, or to store those already built with new Ammunition; their High Mightinesses shall, with the Communication and in presence of his Majesty's Stadtholder, or his Commissary, publicly charge the said Particulars in Discount, or at least demand them; and shall do the same with regard to the purchase of all Necessaries, and the Stadtholder or Commissary deputed, shall be requir'd to be present when the said Works shall be charg'd in Deduction, to the end that all may be done in his Presence, and with his Knowledge.

XI. And to the end that the above-said Guard and Defence may be the more securely executed, and that the necessary Correspondence and Union betwixt the Governors, Commanders, and Garrison, the Magistracy and Citizens of the said Cities, Forts and Places be the better maintain'd, the above-said Magistracy, as well for its self, as in the Name of all the Citizens, as also the Governors and Commanders, as well for themselves, as in the Name of the whole Garrison, besides the Oath to which they are oblig'd to the above-said King, and to their High Mightinesses, promise by solemn Oath, which they shall take before the Commissioners, which shall be chosen on both the one side and the other, to maintain, to the utmost of their Power, his Majesty's

Majesty's Rights, as true Proprietor, and those of their High Mightinesses as Mortgagees, and to keep, and help to keep the above-said Cities each in its particular Rights, to the Profit of his said Majesty, as being to become incontestable Master of them, by the Restitution of the above-mention'd Disbursements, and the Interests of them; and for their High Mightinesses, to whom the said Towns, Forts and Places being engag'd, pursuant they are to possess them till the said Re-imbursement, and besides regulate them to this present Contract, without doing any thing, or causing or permitting any thing to be done, directly or indirectly, to the contrary.

XII. The Governors or Commanders, together with the said Garrisons, shall be allow'd the Exercise of the Reformed Religion, without any Disturbance or Insult, as 'tis practis'd in the *United-Provinces*, and that in their Houses, if fit for it; and in case that they are not proper, the Deputies of the Stadtholder shall grant to them on the Part of the said King, other fit Places in the said Cities, Forts and Places.

And the said Governors and Commandants shall have a very strict Care that their Soldiers are not guilty of any Scoffing or Scandal of, and yet much less give any Interruption to the *Roman* Catholick Clergy, nor to the Burghers or Inhabitants of the said Towns and Places, in the Exercise and Ceremonies of their Religion; and if it happen that any Person does so, he shall be corrected and punish'd by the Civil or Military Judge, as the Case shall exact and require, in order to prevent for the future the like Exorbitancies.

XIII. That the said Governors, Commanders, Auditors, Judges, and besides all the Garrison, shall be provided in the said Cities, Forts and Places with convenient Apartments and Baracks, or otherwise provided, without any Expence to their High Mightinesses.

XIV. That on the Part of the said King shall be furnished the Provisions which they shall want, to the end that the above-said Garrison may have the Victuals which

which shall be necessary to them, in like manner as Burgers and Inhabitants of the said Cities and Places, and that at a reasonable Price; and besides, that there be built convenient Magazines for Corn, Turf and other necessary Provisions.

XV. That when their High Mightinesses shall have receiv'd the just Re-imbursment of the advanc'd Sum, and the Interests of the same, and shall be wholly freed from the Interposition of their Credit, the said Towns, Forts and Places, with all which shall appear by the Inventory to have been deliver'd, shall be rendred and restor'd to the King. And for the greater Security of the Observation of this Article, *viz.* that the Mony being paid, and the Interests return'd, the Places mortgag'd shall be evacuated and restor'd; his Imperial Majesty, the King of *Great Britain*, and the King of *Sweden* shall be supplicated to be Guarantees of this Article.

XVI. That the above-said Re-imbursment shall be made on the Part of the above-said King, in one Sum, or in Terms, at least in the time of——Years, and in the *interim* for the Payment of the Interests, shall be engag'd and paid by the Officers of the above-said King, and by his Majesty's Order, the Revenues of his Customs and Tolls on the *Maes*, together with those of his other Dues, Taxes and Subsidies dependant on the Jurisdiction of the said Cities and Places.

And in case that, contrary to all Expectation, the said time comes to expire, without the said Re-imbursment having been made, that then the said Customs, Dues and other publick Revenues dependant on the District of the said engag'd Cities and Places, shall be administred by their High Mightinesses, for the Payment of the stipulated and annual Interests, of all which the said King shall yet remain accountable, together in Deduction of the Principal, in case that the above-said Revenues can extend themselves so far; and an Account and Balance shall be drawn up, the whole to the end that on Deficiency of Payments, the Debt don't come to

augment to that Degree, as to preclude the Right of Redemption.

XVII. And we the under-written Plenipotentiaries have promis'd, as we do promise by these Presents, to cause them to be respectively ratify'd by our Lords Principal, viz. by their High Mightinesses, and by the said Lord Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, in the above-said Character, within the Space of fourteen Days, and yet besides by the above-said Lady, Queen Regent, in the Name of his Majesty, within the Space of three Months.

XVIII. And as their High Mightinesses also sincerely intend to use their utmost Endeavours, together with the King of *Great Britain*, to the end that the King of *France* also continues on his Side to grant the Suspension of Arms which is agreed on, and consequently accomplish the Project of Peace according to the Acceptation of a Member of the Alternative already perform'd by the Lord Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*: It is stipulated, that in case that the above-said King of *France* comes also provisionally to consent to the said Prolongation, and that it be effectually observ'd before the furnishing of the Money shall be executed, it shall then be left free to the above-said Lord Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo* and to their High Mightinesses to leave things in their present State. And in case that the Peace be concluded before the Execution of these Presents, each Party shall then, on that account, remain at its entire Liberty.

So done and concluded at the *Hague* on the ninth of April, 1668. Sign'd,

(L. S.) *Gamarra.*

(L. S.) *W. Huygens.*

(L. S.) *D' Asperen.*

• (L. S.) *John de Wit.*

(L. S.) *John de Rede.*

(L. S.) *E. v. Boersma.*

(L. S.) *John d'Ysselmuyde.*

(L. S.) *H. Gockinga.*

The Separate ARTICLE.

BY this Separate Article, which shall have the same Force as tho' 'twas incorporated in the Contract of Engagement, sign'd and concluded this Day betwixt us, 'tis declar'd and concluded, as 'tis declar'd and concluded by these Presents, that the Lords States-General of the *United-Provinces* shall not be oblig'd to part with the Money promis'd by the said Contract, or allow *N. N.* to be disseis'd of it, unless the said Lord Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, Governor and Captain-General of the *Spanish Netherlands*, has himself first sign'd the Contract lately couch'd in Writing by the deput-
ed Ministers of the King of *France* in concert with the *Sieurs van Beuningen* and *Trevor*, Ambassador Extraordinary and Envoy Extraordinary of the King of *Great Britain* and their High Mightinesses, or otherwise has not sent Power to the abovesaid *Sieurs van Beuningen* and *Trevor*, to perfect and conclude the abovesaid Treaty in his Name with the Plenipotentiaries of the abovesaid King of *France*.

So transacted and concluded at the *Hague*, April 9, 1668.

(L. S.) *Gamarra.*

(L. S.) *W. Huygens.*

(L. S.) *D^r. Asperen.*

(L. S.) *John de Wit.*

(L. S.) *John de Redt.*

(L. S.) *E. v. Bootfma.*

(L. S.) *John d'Usselmuyde.*

(L. S.) *H. Gockinga.*

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: April 12, 1668.

Monsieur *van Benningen* writes Letters hither to his Friends in such Terms, which give great Suspicion of the King's good Intentions for the Peace, and it seems that there are some People in *France* which he gives Credit to, which inspire in him those ill Sentiments, which are not unknown to *Castel Rodrigo*, he having on that dispatcht a Courier to Don *Estevan de Gamarra*, to desire Assistance from the States, on the Supposition that the King will not prolong the Suspension of Arms beyond the 10th of *April*, and that his Majesty is to march the next Day with three Armies directly to *Brussels*; he requires that they instantly send him four thousand Men, and that they be follow'd with six thousand a few days after, and that they continue to send him besides four thousand Foot and a considerable Body of Horse, without which *Brussels* runs a great Risque of being lost.

The States have not taken any great Notice of the abovesaid Memorial, and answer'd that it should be put into the Hands of the Deputies to examine and make a Report of it, which is a way which the States make use of when they design to refuse what is ask'd of them.

By the diligence of the States in hastening the March of all their Troops to the Frontiers of *Brabant*, it appears that their Design is to relieve the *Netherlands*, in case that the King's Army should enter them to make any Conquest, which ought to oblige the King to Precaution himself, and not to confide in the Appearances of all that Monsieur *de Wit* and the other Ministers say to me here, of their good Intentions for the Peace, nor in the Motions of Monsieur *van Benningen*; for it appears to me, that they don't lose any time in pressing and soliciting the Princes and Kings to enter into the
same

same Engagement with the League which was made on the 23d of *January*, and that they again dispatch'd a Courier to *England*, to conclude with the *Swede* on the Demands of the Count *de Dohna*, and on the triple Alliance that *Sweden* would make betwixt her self, *England* and the States. 'Tis certain that the King of *England* presses the States in an extraordinary manner to conclude with *Sweden*; from whence may be inferred that the Sentiments of that King are not so favourable to us as to our Enemies. The Cavalry has not yet order to go out of their Garrisons for want of Forage.

Prince *Maurice* is just gone from me, he told me with great regret, that the States had signified to him that he should not command the Army, but that it should be Monsieur *Wurts*: He intends to go to *Cleve*, there to wait the time of his Departure for the Extraordinary Embassy to the Emperor, to which he is destin'd.

The Treaty with the Dukes of *Lunenburg*, *Zell* and the Bishop of *Osnabrug* is sign'd and ratify'd. Monsieur *d' Amerongen* is gone Deputy to the Bishop of *Munster*, to desire a Passage for that Body of Troops, and if refus'd they will be order'd to march thro' *East-Friseland*. The fitting out of forty eight Sail is hastened, and the Money distributed for that end; they will be able to put to Sea in the beginning of *May*. The Province of *Zealand* has consented to the Levy of twelve thousand Men, and to the Equipment of the said forty eight Sail; pursuant to the Treaty to be concluded in *England* of the Triple Alliance, a larger number of Ships and Men should be provided.

When I complain of all these diligent and hasty Proceedings, which are directly against the Faith and Alliance which they have with *France*; Monsieur *de Wit* and the Deputies of the States Answer, that the King shall know by the Event, that they do nothing but in order to secure the Peace, and that what Treaties soever they make, they will be of no Force, the King

giving them time to constrain the *Spaniards* to accept the Alternative, as his Majesty shall be secur'd by Monsieur *van Benningen*.

Monsieur *de Beverning* at his departure assur'd me, that he had Order from the States to agree well with Monsieur *Colbert*, which he would not fail of, and that he came to assure me of it before his Departure.

You will, Sir, be acquainted by this Post, that notwithstanding the Resolution which the States took ten Days since, not to sign the Treaty of Engagement of the Places with the *Spaniards*; they have stepp'd over it, and 'twas sign'd with Don *Estevan de Gamarra* on last Sunday; on which complaining to Monsieur *de Wit* of a Procedure so extraordinary, and so little consonant to Sincerity, after the Resolutions taken by the States, and the Remonstrances which I had made, that 'twas an Infraction on the Treaty of 1662, to give Assistance under any Pretence whatsoever to the King's Enemies, such as they will receive by an Engagement of this Nature. He answer'd me, that I had no reason to complain, that they had respected my Remonstrances, and that the States would not sign the Treaty without the Separate Article, which imports that the said Treaty shall be null, 'till *Casfel Rodrigo* has sign'd the Alternative, and executed what he has promis'd, and that the States would not give any Assistance in Money, Troops, or Ammunition of War, on which the *Spaniards* make such pressing Instances, 'till they should have sign'd the Treaty with the King.

That he (the *Sieur de Wit*) and the Province of *Holland* are surpriz'd; that nothing in the World could more undeceive the *Spaniards*, on the Subject of the States entering into an Alliance with them, in order to break with *France*: The signing with them a Treaty, the end of which was to engage them to part with Money, Troops and Ammunition by this Contract; and they clearly see that they are void of all Relief, and they have no other way left but only that of signing the Alternative, to save them, which the States don't doubt

doubt but that they will, and that Monsieur *van Benningen* will so distinctly explain every thing to the King, that he does not doubt but his Majesty will be satisfy'd. He farther told me, that he had brought the Province of *Holland* to give the Opinion for sending Monsieur *van Benningen* into *Spain*, immediately after the signing of the Treaty, to declare resolutely to the Queen of *Spain* and her Council, that the States would without any delay break with *Spain*, and enter with their Arms into the *Netherlands*, if she a Moment deferr'd the sending of the Ratification.

That the States expected an Answer from *Brussels*, and *England*, by the Expresses which they had sent, on the Project which Monsieur *van Benningen* had sent them: That they persisted in writing to both the one and the other place, on the necessity of *Castel Rodrigo's* signing it; but if any Delay should happen, I hope that the King will not participate Affairs, by marching his Army into the *Netherlands*.

I answer'd him, that the Conduct of the States was so Extraordinary in all that had pass'd on this Affair for these eight Months, that no Credit was to be given to all that he said, but that we ought to judge by the Effect; that there might also be other secret Articles betwixt the *Spaniards* and the States, which might destroy those which appear'd publick; that I did not see the necessity of signing the Treaty after the States had resolv'd against it, and that 'twas enough to have said to Don *Estevan de Gamarra*, and to have written to *Castel Rodrigo*, that they would not give them any Assistance either in Money, Men, or Military Ammunition, till the Treaty projected by the King on the Alternative was sign'd, and also that the States would not make one step which could give Umbrage to the King; that it seem'd to me, that by this way they might much better have remov'd the Jealousie, which we have reason to conceive on so many Treaties, Leagues and Alliances solicited with the Kings and Princes without his Majesty's Participation: That if

Monfieur *van Benningen* was to fay any thing more to his Satisfaction, I fhould be very glad, feeing with great Regret, after the Advances which the King has made to give Peace to Chriftendom, that the States fhould fly back by making Steps contrary to our Interests; that I wifh'd that they had a speedy Answer from *Brussels* and *England* on the Project, and that it prov'd conform to his Majesty's Propofitions, to put an end to all things; fince there is nothing to be added to the King's Moderation, in Condefcenfion to the end of *May*, which 'twas his Majesty's Pleasure that I fhould entrust to him in private, and would not impart it to Monfieur *van Benningen*, for the Reasons which I had already alledg'd; that it depended on him to manage the good Difpofitions in which his Majesty was for the fo much defir'd Peace: That if he perfifted in defiring a longer time than that of the end of *May*, I would tell him beforehand 'twould ruin the Affair; that this time was long enough to have the Ratification from *Spain*, in cafe that the *Spaniards* defire the Peace, and that the King would not fuffer himfelf to be any longer amus'd by Complacencies contrary to his own Interests, and would take the advantage of the Opportunity which he had to bring his Armies into the Field: That he (the *Sieur de Wit*) would be the first in repenring the Non-acceptance of the King's Offers; that by your Difpatch of the 6th you wrote me, that he would not find it fo eafie as he expected to get the Baron of *Bergbeyck* to fign, and that the Intention of the *Spaniards* is not fincere on the Subject of the Peace.

That if the King's Sentiments had been follow'd fix Months paff, intending Monfieur *van Benningen* to act refolutely in *Spain*, as was projected, the Peace would have been made by this time; and that I thought his Voyage at prefent would not be in vain.

He reply'd on all this, that he did not doubt that the King was fatisfy'd with what Monfieur *van Benningen* faid to him, and that he affur'd me, that the Intention of the States was good and fincere, and that the Province

Province of *Holland* would be always firm and inseparable from the King's Interest. This is, Sir, all that pass'd between Monsieur *de Wit* and me, in the two Conferences which we had Yesterday and this Day. I am, &c.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: April 13, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 5th of this Month. Since five of the Provinces have so ill acknowledg'd the King's Sincerity, when he order'd his Commissioners to draw up a Project of the Treaty of Peace, and me to sign it, against which Monsieur *van Benningen* himself had nothing to say; and that it appears by that, that if his Majesty should sign the Gospel, they would not accept it as proceeding from Benevolence, it may hereafter happen that they may not always find him so easie, and that his Majesty may not be so much concern'd as hitherto, that he might not suffer his Friends to fall headlong into the Perplexity into which the *Spaniards* would throw them, that they might extricate themselves, as well as they could; instead of the great Thanks which his Majesty had reason to expect for his Project, and permitted me to write to you to tell in Confidence to Monsieur *de Wit*, on the Subject of the Suspension till the End of *May*; they wrangle with him, because, say they, the King's Offers are not conform to the Treaty at the *Hague*; as tho' his Majesty was perfectly oblig'd to receive Laws from that Treaty, or that even they who made it, when they acknowledge the Inconveniency and Injustice of it, have not the same Power to remedy them by new Agreements.

This Conduct would put the most moderate Man in the World out of all Patience; judge then farther what Effects it may produce on the Mind of a great King, who prefers his Honour and Glory before all other

Cor.-

Considerations. But I am sufficiently acquainted with the Humour of *Populace*, not to be surpriz'd at any of its Actions, how ridiculous soever it may be: But what surprizes me really is, that Monsieur *de Wit*, not only has not receiv'd these great Advances with Respect, Gratitude and Warmth, but that he spake to you in such Terms, that I may very well venture to say, that if Monsieur *van Benningen* has receiv'd nothing else in the new Instructions which may have been sent to him, Peace was never so far off as at present; for all that the said *de Wit* said to you on the Advances of the King's Commissioners, seems to me to reduce its self to a Design of obliging the King to remain with folded Arms till the 15th of *June*; and that in case of the War continuing, his Majesty shall in *August* have the Choice of the two old Alternatives, which he has hitherto tendered to the *Spaniards*. The Term of *August* is very pleasant for such a great Advantage, and what is yet more, is, that in *August* the King will have the Choice not of an Advantage, but of doing himself a Prejudice; for Monsieur *de Wit* mistakes, if he believes that the King does not know that the Choice which the *Spaniards* have made of the last Year's Conquests, is of that which is most convenient to his Majesty, and which he must most desire; so that he would not at present change it for the other, in which enter the *Francbe Comte* and *Cambrai*: So that if Monsieur *van Benningen* has nothing else to say, he may spare his Pains.

I thought we might on *Tuesday* last have re-assum'd our Conferences, knowing that the Courier from *England* was arriv'd, and that Monsieur *van Benningen* might also have receiv'd his Orders by the Post; but am very much surpriz'd with the Declaration which Monsieur *Trevor* has just made me, that he was oblig'd to send a second Courier to the King his Master, to desire more ample Instructions; this is a Delay of 7 or 8 Days, and there is certainly some room to suspect it design'd; but what I foresee, and what makes me uneasy, is, that when we shall re-assume the Conferences, they will im-

mediately

mediately tell us, That to the end of *May* is not time enough to conclude and sign the Treaty, and exchange the Ratifications: But yet I may tell you, that his Majesty will never grant a Day beyond that time, happen what will; and that 'twill suffice on his Part, that there has been no Delay nor trifling, but on the contrary all manner of possible Endeavours and Advances towards the speedy conclusion of the Peace.

I entreat you to tell Monsieur *de Wit* beforehand, that to avoid the wrangling which the *Spaniards* may raise against us on a certain Place call'd *d'Orchies*, situate betwixt *Lisle* and *Doway*, whether 'tis or is not one of the Dependances of one of those two Places; the King desires that the said *Orchies* may be nam'd in the Treaty, in which the inserting of it was omitted, on the Pre-supposition that 'twas one of the incontestable Dependants on *Doway*: But that his Majesty having within these two Days been thinking, that the *Spaniards* might perhaps maintain, that this Place, (tho' 'tis but a small Village) is Independant, he is willing to obviate this Dispute by mentioning it in the Treaty, so that, whether the said Place of *Orchies* be Dependant or Independant, no difficulty can occur on the part of the *Spaniards*, which will not be inexcusable; for the King's Arms have occupy'd that Village during the last Campaign, and his Majesty has continually had a Garrison there, as he has at this present; so that in this, the King does not make any new Demand, but is only pleas'd to explain himself, on what may happen to be disputed by the unjust wrangling of his Enemies: Besides, if Monsieur *de Wit* will cast his Eyes on the Map of that part of *Flanders* which is stil'd *French*, he will clearly see, that this Place being half way betwixt *Lisle* and *Doway*, his Majesty can never quit it to the *Spaniards*, nor be wanting in urging the Right which he has on it by his Occupation of it the last Campaign, and having continually kept a Garrison there.

If it could have been thought that the King's Project should have been receiv'd where you are, so disobligingly as it has (which was so far from being probable, that it did not seem even possible) it had probably came into our Mind to propose our selves to Monsieur *van Benningen* what Monsieur *de Wit* so wisely suggested; and when I mention'd it afterwards to Monsieur *Trevor*, he declar'd to me that he should have been willing to have turn'd the Affair on that manner, but we then thought of nothing but of giving to the States, and to the *Spaniards* themselves, this incontestable proof of the Sincerity of the King's Intentions towards the Peace, by clearly convincing them that his Majesty would not cavil a Moment on the Terms of the Treaty; and also at present Monsieur *van Benningen* can say, if he will, that this Project is rather his Performance than ours, for he has made us strike out or add several things, and correct others, in which he did not meet with any Repugnance or Difficulty from us; an Evidence of which is the fine Reflexion which he at the very first made on the Article of Cession and Renunciation which *Spain* is to make to the King of his Conquests, having declar'd to us, that this Article gave him a great deal of Uneasiness, considering that the *Spaniards* would make a great difficulty of passing it during the King's Minority, which was a time in which they could not make valid Cessions of Dominions; but he could not stand to it, and was even himself somewhat asham'd of what he had said, when we put him on observing that the King ought to be in pain on that Subject, and the *Spaniards* to rejoice that they were not able to make any Cessions, tho' his Majesty would yet content himself with them for the Promotion of Peace, and run all the Risque, particularly with the Guárantee which the other Princes and Potentates should give him.

What is said farther, that the two Points which we mention'd to the Ministers of *England* and *Holland*, are contrary to the Tenor of the League made at the

Hague,

Hague, and that they will oblige the States to depart from the Engagement which they have enter'd into with the King of *Great Britain*; 'tis to be consider'd that the King our Master was not bound to the Alternative any longer than to the end of *March*; that he afresh voluntarily oblig'd himself 'till the 15th of *April*; that for the Offer, concerning the Prolongation of the Suspension, which he permitted you to whisper to *Monsieur de Wit*, he is willing to grant yet a Term of fifteen Days, that is to say, 'till the end of *May*; is it not just that it should cost the *Spaniards* something, if out of pure Obstinacy, and to perpetuate the War, they will not in that space of time, which is more than sufficient, conclude the Peace on the Foot of the two Alternatives; and who can they blame for this new Damage if they receive it, but themselves, since 'tis in their Power to explain themselves by speedily terminating the Affair?

A Treaty between Lewis XIV. King of France, Charles II. King of England, and the United-Provinces of the Low-Countries, for the procuring of a Peace between the Crowns of France and Spain; made at St. Germain en Laye, April 15, 1668.

THE King of *Great Britain* and the States-General of the *United-Provinces*, having at the end of the Month of *February* sent the *Sieurs van Beuningen* and *Trevor*, respectively their Ambassador and Envoy Extraordinary to the Most Christian King, to offer their Endeavours and good Offices towards the speedy Re-establishment of the Publick Peace, by the Conclusion of a good Accommodation betwixt him and the Catholic

tholick King; and the Most Christian King having already agreeably receiv'd the Offers of the King of *Great Britain* and the said States, declaring to the *Sieurs van Benningen* and *Trevor*, that in Consideration of their Masters he will persist in contenting himself yet to make Peace on the same Foundation of one of the two Alternatives, on which he explain'd himself, from the end of the last Year's Campaign, namely, either the Cession which the *Spaniards* are to make of the Places, Ports and Posts which his Arms have possess'd during the said Campaign, together with their Dependences; or else of an Equivalent, consisting in the Cession of the *Franche Comte*, (or in its place, of the Dutchy of *Luxemburg*) *Cambrai* and the *Cambresis*, *Donay*, comprehending *Fort Scarpe*, *Aire*, *St. Omer*, *Bergue*, *Furnas* and *Linck*, with their Dependences; it afterwards happen'd that by the Care and good Offices of the said King of *Great Britain* and of the said States, that the *Marquis de Castel Rodrigo*, Governor of *Flanders*, by vertue of his full Power to treat of Peace, has accepted in the Name of the Catholick King, the first Member of the two Alternatives here abovemention'd, and declar'd to be ready to sign, or cause to be sign'd by his Subdelegates, a Treaty of Peace conform to the Project, which had been presented to him by the Ministers of the King of *Great Britain* and the said States, which are at *Brussels*; on which the said *Sieurs Ambassador* and *Envoy Extraordinary* seeing the Affair so far advanc'd, made pressing Instances to his Most Christian Majesty to be pleas'd to consent to a Suspension of Arms 'till the end of next *May*, in order to the allowing of a proper time to finish the said Treaty according to the usual Forms; and his said Majesty having declar'd on the said Instances that in the present Posture of Affairs, he could not grant it without extremely prejudicing himself, at least unless the said King of *Great Britain* and the said States give him all the Security which he shall judge to be necessary for him to have, for the infallible Success of the Affair on the

said

said Conditions, and in the abovesaid time; and the said Ambassador and Envoy Extraordinary having thereon offer'd to his Most Christian Majesty, that the King of *Great Britain* and Messieurs the States should be Guarantees of the Offers which they brought him on the part of the said Marquiss of *Castel Rodrigo*, on the Acceptation of the first Member of the Alternative, and declare that by this Guarantee they are empower'd to promise, and are fully authoriz'd and enabled to give to his Most Christian Majesty all requisite Securities and Satisfactions, and whatever he can desire on the infallibility of the said Success: The Most Christian King has to this purpose nominated and deputed the *Sieur le Tellier*, Counsellor in all his Councils, Commander of his Orders, Secretary of State, and of the Orders of his Majesty; the *Sieur de Lionne*, also Secretary of State, and Commander of his Orders; and the *Sieur Colbert* Counsellor in all his Councils, Comptroller General of his Finances, Treasurer of his Orders, and Surintendant of his Buildings, provided with a sufficient full Power to treat with the *Sieurs van Benningen* and *Trevor*, also provided with a like full Power, and to agree together the said Securities, and on the most certain and expeditious Ways of attaining Peace, and after several Conferences which the said Plenipotentiaries have had together, they have at last agreed, settled, and concluded on the following Articles.

I. The Treaty of Peace betwixt *France* and *Spain* shall be concluded conform to the abovesaid Project, which is at present put into the Hands of the said *Sieurs van Benningen* and *Trevor*, and the Ratification of *Spain* sent to *St. Germain en Laye*, to his Most Christian Majesty on the last Day of next *May* inclusive; as also the Most Christian King shall put the Ratification of the said Treaty on the same last Day of *May*, into the Hands of the Governor of *Flanders*, and sooner if it can be done.

II. The Most Christian King agrees on his part to a Cessation of all sorts of Enterprises and Attacks on
the

the fortified Places of the *Spaniards*, on Condition the same be reciprocally done on the part of *Spain*, and that 'till the last Day of *May* inclusive.

III. In case that in Opposition to all Endeavours *Spain* should fail to make Peace pursuant to the above-said Project, or that the Ratification be not deliver'd to the Most Christian King, he then, not being oblig'd to make Peace on the Conditions of the above-said Alternative, his Majesty declares that he will yet be contented to make Peace during the Months of *June* and *July* on the Conditions of the two new Alternatives following, of which the Choice shall be left to *Spain*; namely, the first, the Cession of the Conquests of the last Summer's Campagne, *Spain* adding to them the Cession of the *Franche Comte*, and *Cambray*, and the *Cambresis*: The second, the Cession of the above-said Equivalent, *Spain* adding to it the Cession of *Luxemburg*, or in stead of it that of *Lille* or *Tournay*.

IV. But in the same Case just mention'd, that the Peace be not made, nor the Ratifications exchange'd in the above-said time by the fault of *Spain*, the Most Christian King, after the Expiration of the term of the said Suspension, attacking the *Spaniards*, to endeavour to necessitate them to make Peace on the Conditions of one of the two new Alternatives, the King of *Great Britain* and the said Lords States shall be oblig'd to put in Execution the Promise contain'd in their abovemention'd Guarantee, and consequently employ all their Forces by Sea and Land, to oblige *Spain* to make Peace on the Conditions just mention'd.

V. In case that the Peace shall not be yet made during the Months of *June* and *July*, on the said Conditions for the ease of *Spain*, their Majesties and the said Lords States shall then agree together anew, on what they shall find more expedient to terminate the War.

VI. But to the end, that in the use of the Arms of their Majesties, and of the said States in the above-said Case, all Inconveniences may be avoided which arise from

From the Concurrence of Enterprises, when each Party may chuse the same Designs, 'tis agreed that the Arms of his Most Christian Majesty shall restrain themselves in their Action to the Country on this side of the Rivers and Canals, which pass through the following Towns and Places; to wit, *Argenteau, Navaigne, Mastricht, Hallen, Diest, Sichem, Arschot, Mechlen, Ruspelmond, Dendermond, Gent, Plassendaet and Ostend*, and shall not attack any of the said Places and Towns; and that the Arms of the King of *Great Britain*, and the said Lords States, shall restrain the acting of their Arms beyond the same Rivers and Canals, and shall not attack any Cities and Places situate on this side of them.

All which Points and Articles here above specify'd, have been so agreed, concluded, and accorded on both the one part and the other, betwixt the *Sieurs le Tellier, de Lionne*, and *Colbert* in the Name of the Most Christian King, and the said *Sieurs van Beuningen and Trevor*, respectively in the Name of the King of *Great Britain*, and of the States-General, which have promis'd to provide the Ratifications of their Majesties, and of the said Lords the States, on the last Day of the present Month of *April* inclusively, and sooner if it can be done; in Confirmation of which they have sign'd the present Treaty with their own Hands, and caus'd to be affix'd the Seal of their Arms. Done at *St. Germain en Laye* the 15th Day of *April*, 1668. Sign'd,

(L. S.) *Le Tellier*.

(L. S.) *Van Beuningen*.

(L. S.) *De Lionne*.

(L. S.) *Trevor*.

(L. S.) *Colbert*.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count
D'Estrades: April 20, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 12th of this Month. Tho' I don't doubt but that Monsieur *de Wit* has communicated to you the Treaty which we sign'd here

the 15th of this Instant with Messieurs *van Benningen* and *Trevor*, as soon as the Courier which brought it to the *Hague* arriv'd. I yet send you a Copy, which I entreat you to send to Monsieur *de Pomponne* without delay, and to take other Copies, which please to send to Messieurs *de Beziers*, *de Terlon*, *Millet* and *Gourville*, because I writ yesterday to all those Gentlemen that you would do so.

There might be many things to say on the Precipitation, with which the Treaty about the Engagement of the Places was concluded, and so much the rather, because Monsieur *van Benningen*, to whom Monsieur *de Wit* in discourse on this Affair, told you 'twas refer'd to satisfy the King, has not said any thing which even approach'd giving even the least of this Satisfaction: Nevertheless, provided our Treaty be ratify'd by *England* and the States, and that the latter don't, on the other, furnish the *Spaniards* with any Troops or Money, conform to what Monsieur *de Wit* has assur'd you of, and given his Word; there will be room to console our selves on this step of the States wholly unnecessary, and the Peace will cure all.

I wrote to you last Week concerning the Village of *Orchies*, but the King being afterwards certainly inform'd that 'tis in the Government of *Lisle*, and all the Governments of the conquer'd Places being to be yielded to his Majesty, those words being particularly express'd in the Project which *Castel Rodrigo* has already approv'd, his Majesty charg'd me not to add to the said Project that Specification of *Orchies*, which might seem an Innovation, and which, considering what I have just said, his Majesty has no want of.

From the Count D'Estades to Monsieur de Lionne: April 26, 1668.

THE States have recall'd the six thousand Men, which they had order'd to *Lille*, two Leagues from
Antwerp

Answer, to the Camp near *Bergen op Zoom*; this Body posted so near the Enemy's, and the Treaty which they made about the *Upper-Gelderland*, with the Places, and several other Steps which have been made at the same time, have plainly express'd the Distrust which they always had of the King's good Intentions towards Peace: They own at present, and with much Confusion, that 'tis not possible to act more sincerely and more generously than his Majesty has done on this Occasion: We cannot say the same of them, they having try'd all Kings and Princes to draw them into their League, and to give them Umbrages of the great Power of *France*; and 'tis certain, that if his Majesty by his great Prudence had not ended Affairs, the States would have drawn a great War upon him, and that they would have employ'd immense Sums, which are in their Country, to have maintain'd it; but, God be thank'd, Affairs are in a better way, and his Majesty clearly sees what Security there is in the Amity and Alliance of the States, that is to say, that he ought not to reckon on it any longer than their Interests fall in with it.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: April 27, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Dispatch of the 19th, and your Billet of the 21st, by which you give me Advice of the States sending their Ratification of the Treaty, which we sign'd here with Monsieur *van Beuningen*, and the *English* Envoy. I assure you, that they are not a little oblig'd to the King's Moderation, and his Consideration of their Alliance: For as I Yesterday told Monsieur *van Beuningen*, who agreed to the truth of it, his Majesty was in Condition to have seiz'd; perhaps in less than five or six Weeks, the four strongest and most important Places in the *Netherlands*, maugre all the Assistances which could have been given to the *Spaniards*,

from whence would infallibly have follow'd the Declaration of the principal great Towns, several of which have already concerted Measures with his Majesty, by ways which would surprize you your self, if I should tell you what his Majesty has sacrific'd on this Occasion to the Promotion of Peace, and the Satisfaction of his Friends.

No Point of your last Dispatch requires a particular Answer at present, when all Jealousies are remov'd, and Peace cannot any otherwise fail than by the Refusal of the *Spaniards* to make it, which will bring on their Backs as well the Forces of the States as those of his Majesty.

As soon as the Ratification of our Treaty arrives from *England*, we shall exchange those of the King with the two others.

I have an Express Courier from *Portugal*, which brought the News to the King, of the Marriage of the Prince with the Queen of *Portugal*, and of his Consummation on *Easter-Monday*. The *Spaniards* have dispers'd great Sums of Money to cross the Match, and the Marquis *de Liche*, Ambassador from *Spain*, has been so uneasy at it, that he is gone from *Lisbon*, without taking leave of any Body; but there are Messengers gone after him to stop him, 'till the Peace should be executed in the Point of the Evacuation of the Places, and he is at present in a Village call'd *Aldra l' Allegra*.

Memorial of the Count D'Estrades, presented to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: April 27, 1668.

THE Count *D'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, has Order from the King his Master, to make Instance to your Lordships, that 'twould please you to permit the Transportation from
Rotterdam

• *Rotterdam to France* of four compleat Sets of Armour,
 • one of them Musquet, and the other Carabine proof,
 • of two Bucklers Musquet proof, two *French* Helmets,
 • and four Head-pieces to put over the Hat, all for
 • his Majesty. And these being contraband Commo-
 • dities, that you will please to give your Orders to
 • the Gentlemen of the College of the Admiralty of
 • *Rotterdam*, not to give them any Obstruction. Given
 at the *Hague*, April 27, 1668.

*A Treaty of Peace betwixt the Crowns of
 France and Spain, concluded, termina-
 ied and sign'd in the Imperial City of
 Aix la Chapelle, May 2, 1668.*

IN the Name of God the Creator, be it known to all
 at present and for the future, that by the Authori-
 ty and paternal Care of our Most Holy Father* Pope
Clement IX. of that Name, happily seated in the Holy
 See, for the good Government of our Holy Mother the
 Church, and by the continual Exhortations and most
 earnest Instances of his Holiness, as well by divers and
 several Letters written with his own Hand, as Em-
 bassies and Negotiations of his own Nephew, at pre-
 sent Cardinal *Respigliosi*, and one of his Nuncio's Ex-
 traordinary: The most High, most Excellent and most
 Potent Prince *Lewis*, by the Grace of God, most Chri-
 stian King of *France* and *Navarre*: And the most
 High, most Excellent and most Potent Prince *Charles II.*
 by the Grace of God, Catholick King of *Spain*, &c.
 and the most High, most Excellent and most Potent
 Princess *Mary Anne* of *Austria*, Catholick Queen of *Spain*,
 his Mother, as Tutrix, Curatrix and Governess of his
 Kingdoms and Dominions; are conven'd and agreed to
 chuse the Imperial City of *Aix la Chapelle*, to treat of
 Peace there, by the Interposition of the Plenipotentiary

of his Holiness, as also of the Ministers of several other Kings, Potentates, Electors and Princes of the Holy Empire, who have so laudably employ'd their Cares and good Offices to finish this great Affair; and as to attain it, the said Lord the Most Christian King has given his full Power to the *Sieur Colbert*, Counsellor in all his Councils, Master of the Ordinary Requests of his Houshold, and his Ambassador Extraordinary; and the said Lord the Catholick King has given his full Power to the Lord Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, Captain and Governor-General of the *Neitherlands*, who by vertue of his said Power has subdelegated the Lord Baron of *Bergeyck*, Knight of the Order of St. *James*, Counsellor in the Supream Council of *Flanders*, and in his Councils of State and Finances; which Lords *Colbert* and *Bergeyck*, by vertue of their said Powers and Subdelegations, acknowledg'd both on one part and the other to be sufficient, have agreed, settled and concluded the following Articles.

First of all tis accorded and agreed, That for the futurè there shall be a good, firm and durable Peace, Confederation and perpetual Alliance and Amity betwixt the Most Christian and Catholick Kings, their Children already Born and to be Born, their Heirs, Successors and Heritors, their Kingdoms, States, Countries and Subjects, that they shall love one another like good Brethren, procuring with all their Power the Good, Honour and Glory of one another, and heartily avoiding, as much as shall be possible, the Damage of one another.

II. Next to this good Re-union, as soon as the Ratifications of the present Treaty shall be exchange'd, the Peace betwixt the said Lords Kings shall be publish'd, and from the instant of the said Publication, there shall be a Cessation of all Enterprises of War, and of all Acts of Hostility, as well by Sea and other Waters, as by Land, and in general in all Places where the War has been exercis'd by the Arms of their Majesties, as well betwixt their Troops and Armies, as between the Garrisons

Garrisons of their Places; and if any Contravention happen to this Cessation of Arms by the taking of Place or Places, either by Attack or Surprize, or private Intelligence, and also if any Prisoners be made, or any other Acts of Hostility committed by any unforeseen Accident, or by those who cannot prevent it, contrary to the said Cessation of Arms; the Contravention shall be faithfully repair'd both on the one side and the other, without delay or difficulty, restoring without Diminution what was before possess'd, and delivering the Prisoners without Ransom or Expence.

III. In Consideration of the Peace, the Most Christian King shall retain, remain seiz'd of, and effectually enjoy all the Places, Forts and Posts which his Arms have occupy'd or fortify'd during the last Year's Campaign. Namely, the Fortress of *Charleroy*, the Cities of *Binch* and *Aeth*, the Places of *Donay*, comprehending *Fort Scarpe*, *Tournay*, *Oudenaerd*, *Lisle*, *Armentiers*, *Courtray*, *Bergue* and *Furnes*, and all the Extent of their Bailliages, Castellanies, Territories, Governments, Jurisdictions, Appurtenances, Dependances and Adjuncts, by what Name soever they may be call'd.

IV. The said Countries, Cities and Places of *Charleroy*, *Binch*, *Aeth*, *Donay*, *Fort Scarpe*, *Tournay*, *Oudenaerd*, *Lisle*, *Armentiers*, *Courtray*, *Bergue* and *Furnes*, their Bailliages, Castellanies, Governments, Jurisdictions, Territories, Tolls, Lordships, Appurtenances, Dependances and Adjuncts, by what Name soever they may be call'd, shall remain by the present Treaty of Peace to the said Lord the Most Christian King, and to his Successors, and having Cause irrevocably, and continually, with the same Rights of Sovereignty, Propriety, Regale, Patronage, Wardship, Jurisdiction, Nomination, Prerogatives, and Præeminencies on the Bishopsricks, Cathedral Churches, and other Abbies, Priories, Dignities, Cures, and any other Benefices situate within the Extent of the said yielded Countries, Places and Bailliages; the Rights of several Abbies whose said Priories may be moveable and dependant, and all other

Rights which before appertain'd to the Catholick King, tho' not here particularly specify'd; without his Most Christian Majesty's being liable ever for the future to be interrupted or disturb'd in any wise whatsoever, whether on Right or Fact, by the said Lord the Catholick King, his Successors, or any Prince of his House, or any Person whatsoever, or under any Pretence or on any Occasion which may happen in the said Sovereignty, Propriety, Jurisdiction, District, Possession and Enjoyment of all the said Countries, Cities, Places, Castles, Lands, Lordships, Præfectures, Tolls, Castellanies and Bailliages, together with all the Places and Things which depend on them. And to this Effect, the said Lord the Catholick King, as well for himself as for his Heirs, Successors and Claimants, renounces, quits, yields and transports, as his Plenipotentiary in his Name by the present irrevocable Treaty of Peace, has renounc'd, quitted, yielded, and in perpetuity and for ever transported, in Favour of and to the Profit of the said Lord the Most Christian King, his Heirs, Successors, and having Cause, all the Rights, Actions, Pretensions, Rights of Regale, Patronage, Protection, Jurisdiction, Nomination, Prerogatives and Præeminences on the Bishopricks, Cathedral Churches, and other Abbies, Priories, Dignities, Cures and any other Benefices whatever, situate in the Extent of the said Countries, Places and Bailliages which are yielded up; of any Abbies whose said Priories are moving and dependant, and in general without retaining or reserving any thing: All other Rights which the said Lord the Catholick King, or his Heirs and Successors have and pretend to, or may have and pretend to, on any Reason or Occasion soever, on the said Countries, Places, Castles, Forts, Lands, Lordships, Tolls, Castellanies and Bailliages, and on all the dependant Places as abovesaid; notwithstanding all Laws, Customs, Statutes and Constitutions made and enacted to the contrary, tho' even confirm'd by Oath; to which, and to the derogatory Clauses of the Derogatories, is expressly derogated by the present Treaty,

Treaty, with regard to the Effect of the said Renunciations and Cessions, which shall be valid and take place without the particular Expression or Specification derogating from the General, or the General from the Particular, and excluding to perpetuity all Exceptions, on what Right, Title, Cause or Pretext soever that they may be founded; the said Lord the Catholick King declares, consents, wills and intends, that the Men, Vassals and Subjects of the said Countries, Towns and Lands yielded to the Crown of *France*, as above specify'd, shall be and remain acquitted and absolv'd from this present time, and always, from Homage, Service and Oath of Fealty, Allegiance, which all and every one of them may have taken to him and his Predecessors the Catholick Kings, together with all Obedience, Subjection and Vassalage, which in Reason they might owe to him: The said Catholick King consenting that the said Fealty, Homage, and Oath of Allegiance be null and invalid, as if it had never been made nor taken.

V. The said Most Christian King, as soon as the Publication of the Peace is made, shall withdraw his Troops out of the Garrisons of all the Places, Towns, Castles and Forts of the Earldom of *Burgundy*, commonly call'd the *Franche Comté*, and really, effectually, and without fraud, restore to his Catholick Majesty all the said Earldom of *Burgundy*, without reserving or retaining any part of it.

VI. The said Lord the Most Christian King shall also restore to the said Catholick King all the Places, Forts, Castles, and Posts which his Arms have or may have occupied to the Day of the Publication of the Peace, in what Place soever they may be situated, except the Places and Forts which are to remain by the present Treaty to his Most Christian Majesty, as is specify'd above: As in like manner his Catholick Majesty shall restore to his Most Christian Majesty all the Places, Forts, Castles and Posts, which his Arms may have occupied to the Day of the Publication

tion of the Peace, in any place whatsoever where they are situate.

VII. Their Majesties consent, that all the Kings, Potentates and Princes, which shall please to enter into the like Engagement, may give to their Majesties their Promises and Obligations of Guarantee of the Execution of all the Contents of the present Treaty.

VIII. 'Tis agreed, accorded and declar'd, that nothing is design'd to be revok'd of the Treaty of the *Pirenees* (except what concerns *Portugal*, with which the said Lord the Catholick has since made Peace) any farther than shall be otherwise dispos'd in this Treaty, by the Cession of the abovesaid Places, without the Parties therein acquiring any new Right, or that they may receive any prejudice on their respective Pretences in all particulars, which are not expressly mention'd by the present Treaty.

IX. And for the greater Security of this Treaty of Peace, and of all the Points and Articles contain'd therein, the present Treaty shall be publish'd, verify'd and registred in the Court of Parliament at *Paris*, and in all other Parliaments of the Kingdom of *France*, and the Chamber of Accompts of the said City of *Paris*; As in like manner the said Treaty shall be verify'd, publish'd and registred as well in the Great Council and other Councils and Chambers of Accompts of the said Lord the Catholick King in the *Netherlands*, as in the other Councils of the Crowns of *Castile* and *Arragon*; the whole pursuant to, and in the Form contain'd in the Treaty of the *Pyrénées* of the Year 1659, and Copies of it shall be distributed both on the one side and the other in three Months, after the Publication of the present Treaty.

Which Points and Articles here above declar'd, together with the whole Contents of each of them, have been treated, agreed, pass'd and stipulated betwixt the abovesaid Plenipotentiaries of the said Lords, Most Christian and Catholick Kings, in the Name of their Majesties; which Plenipotentiaries by vertue of their respective

Specie Powers, have promis'd and promise under the **Obligation** of all and each of the present and future **Lands** and **States** of the **Kings** their **Masters**, that they shall by their **Majesties** be inviolably observ'd and fulfill'd, and to procure that they sincerely and candidly ratifie them, without adding any thing to them, and to furnish the **Ratifications** by authentick and seal'd **Letters**, in which all the present **Treaty** shall be inserted *Verbatim* on the last Day of *May* next approaching inclusive; namely, his Most Christian Majesty's to be deliver'd at *Brussels* into the Hands of the Governor of *Flanders*; and his Catholick Majesty's at *St. Germain en Laye*, into the Hands of the said Lord the Most Christian King, and sooner if it can be done.

And the said Plenipotentiaries have besides promis'd, and promise in the said Names, that the said Letters of Ratification being furnish'd, the said Lord the Most Christian King, as soon as it shall be possible for him; and in the presence of such Person or Persons which it shall please the said Lord the Catholick King to depute, shall solemnly swear on the Cross, the Holy Gospels, Canons of the Mass, and on his Honour, to observe and accomplish, fully, really and faithfully all the Contents of the Articles of the present Treaty. And the like shall also be done the soonest that it shall be possible by the said Lord the Catholick King, and the Queen Regent his Mother, in presence of such Person or Persons, which it shall please the said Lord the Most Christian King to depute.

In witness of which, the said Plenipotentiaries have subscrib'd the present Treaty with their Names, and affix'd the Seal with their Arms. Acted in the Imperial City of *Aix la Chapelle*, May 2, 1668.

Sign'd,

(L. S.) CHARLES COLBERT.

(L. S.) J. B. de BROUCKHOVEN.

Baron de Bergeyck, and seal'd with his Arms.

And in the Name of his Holiness, and the said Electors and Princes of the Holy Empire, have in the like manner

manner subscrib'd the present Treaty with their Names, and affix'd the Seal of their Arms.

(L. S.) Agost. Franchioni, Arch-Bishop of Trebisonde, Plenipotentiary of his Holiness.

(L. S.) The Baron de Schonborn, in the Name of his Electoral Highness of Mentz.

(L. S.) Franc. Egon. de Furstemberg, Bishop of Strassburg, in the Name of his Electoral Highness of Colen.

(L. S.) The Chevalier Korf, nam'd Schmyling, in the Name of his Highness of Munster.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: May 3, 1668.

YOUR Dispatch of the 27th came to me. Monsieur de Wit, and the most clear-sighted in the Government are firmly perswaded, that if the King would have push'd on his Conquests, he had been Master of the *Netherlands* this Campaign: God grant that they acknowledge, on Occasion, the Obligations which they have to the King; but knowing them as I do, if the Death of the King of *Spain* happens, they will be wholly ready to make Leagues, and stir up all Christendom, to oppose the just Rights which appertain to his Majesty: You may, Sir, take your Measures on this.

We expect here with great Impatience some Courier from *Aix la Chapelle*, to bring the News of the signing of the Treaty. We have heard of nothing but the Passage of Sir *William Temple* on the 28th of last Month thro' *Mastricht*; he carry'd *Castel Rodrigo's* Power to Monsieur de Bergeyck to sign, and afterwards a Courier from *Brussels* came to the *Spanish* Ambassador, and gave him advice that the Blank Ratification of the Queen of *Spain* is arriv'd, which makes us hope that in a little time this great Work will be finish'd, and that the general Peace will follow, which will be

no small Glory to his Majesty, to have sacrific'd his Interests for the Peace of the whole World.

Two Ships are arriv'd which have confirm'd the News of the Marriage of the Queen of *Portugal* to the Prince, and Letters speak very particularly of the retreat of the Marquis *de Liche*, and of his discontent.

'Tis not possible to express more Joy than there is in the Cities of *Holland* for the Peace, and particularly in those which have the most Trade: 'Tis also observ'd that since the signing of the Treaty at *Paris* Money is scarce, and immense Sums are employ'd in commerce to all Parts.

From Monsieur de Lionne to the Count D'Estrades: May 4, 1668.

I Receiv'd your Letter of the 26th of last Month. I give you a thousand Thanks for having been pleas'd to terminate the Affair of the Bishop of *Orange* to his Satisfaction, it being so just: I also give my Thanks to Monsieur *van Zuylichem* in the Letter join'd to this. The Advices which the King has from *Aix la Chapelle* and *Brussels*, don't bring what Monsieur *de Wit* told you in the last place, concerning the Orders which *Castel Rodrigo* sent to the Baron *de Bergeyck*, to sign the Project which we have drawn up and is accepted by the Ministers of *England* and *Holland*; but he finds on the contrary that the *Spaniards* have out of express Design already by their Tergiversations, occasion'd the Loss of nine or ten Days of a time which is very precious; for all things were adjusted here on the 15th, and on the 26th *Temple* was not arriv'd at the Assembly, nor had the Baron of *Bergeyck* receiv'd any order to sign the said Project; but on the contrary, Cavils at it on the Foot of the fine and judicious Remarks of the Baron *de l'Isola*, pretending to make several Alterations in it. The King cannot believe that all this Conduct of *Castel Rodrigo* has not its private Views,

disse-

different from those which he discover'd in his Discourse with the Ministers of the States-General, and I should not think my self in shewing, if I should venture to say that he talk'd in a very different manner to Sir *William Temple*, and that the Intentions of the last are not so good as those of the *Sieur Trever*, witness the delays of his Journey. His Majesty, to unfold this Riddle, and put an end to all the base Subtilties of the Governor of *Flanders*, yesterday dispatch'd an express Courier to Monsieur *Colbert*, to order him to sign the Treaty in the Form which it is drawn up to his Hand, and without delay to put it, thus sign'd by him, into the Hands of the Pope's Plenipotentiary, that the Mediators may have nothing to do but act with the *Spaniards*, to have the Peace sign'd, or justify to the World that they will not do it.

This Demand ought to have been made to his Majesty by the Mediators, and even if it should not have been granted, they could not reasonably have complain'd; but he has been pleas'd to do it of his own Motion, and to give this fresh mark of his intire Sincerity on the Subject of the Peace. I will assure you, as I have already signify'd to Monsieur *van Beuningen* from him, that his Majesty, not being willing to be surpris'd or amus'd, prepares to march into *Flanders* on the 18th of this Month, if on that day he has not the News here that the Treaty is sign'd as well by the *Spaniards* as by him; and as in that case of their Refusal, the Interests of his Majesty will become common with those of *England* and *Holland*, pursuant to our Treaty of the 15th of the last Month; his Majesty desires that you would in time advertise the States, to prepare all things necessary in order to their Arms acting jointly with his, when the time of the Suspension shall be expir'd, to force the *Spaniards* to a Peace.

Sign'd, *De LIONNE*.

From

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: May 10, 1668.

I Receiv'd, Sir, your Dispatch of the 4th of this Instant. Monsieur *de Wit* agrees that the Procedure of the *Spaniards* is not punctual, and that *Castel Rodri-go* does not act sincerely: The States Deputies have complain'd in their Letter, on his Delays in sending the Power to the Baron of *Bergeyck* to sign, notwithstanding that he promis'd to deliver it to Sir *William Temple* the 20th of *April*, and that he had it not 'till the 24th, which shews that his Intention was not to perform what he promis'd. The *Sieur de Wit*, in the Assembly of the States-General, has very much prais'd the Order which the King sent to sign the Treaty, without staying for the *Spaniards* doing it; he very much enlarg'd in shewing the good Conduct of his Majesty and his Council in the course of this Affair, and own'd that he himself was the first deceiv'd, and that he had not so well known the *Spaniards* as his Majesty, in that his Opinion had always been, that a general Suspension of Arms was necessary, whereas the King always insisted for the Promotion and Advancement of the Peace to grant it only for a Suspension of Enterprises; that we at present clearly see, that if the Suspension of Arms had been general, the said *Spaniards* would have been yet farther from signing, which they have been brought to only by Force and Menaces; that 'twas necessary to keep the Troops in a readiness to act against them, in case that they 'don't at the end of this Month execute all that is contain'd in the Treaty of *Paris*; they all voted for it, Monsieur *Renswonde* himself consented by his Silence, in alledging nothing for the *Spaniards*.

After this, several Deputies came to see me, and affirm'd that the States desir'd nothing more than to re-enter into the Confidence of the King, and ally themselves

selves more strictly with him than ever. I answer'd them, that they might judge by all that had pass'd, what Consideration the King had had for them; that their Procedure had sufficiently engag'd him to withdraw himself from their Interest, if the Concern which he had always had for the good of the State, and for their Advantage, had not prevail'd over all the Reasons which their Conduct had given his Majesty to separate from them, and that I could assure them, that what had happen'd would not at all diminish the Affection which the King had for them, provided that they behav'd themselves well for the future. I after that went to visit Monsieur *de Wu*, on the Advices which I had of a Proposition which had been made to the Dutch Ambassadors in *England*, by *Molina* and *l'Isola*, and approv'd by the Lord *Arlington*, to make a Treaty of defensive Alliance betwixt *Spain*, *England*, *Sweden* and the States, and told him that I did not believe that it could occur to his Thoughts, and to those of the States, since 'twould be a means to break all our Alliances, and prevent the ever reposing any Confidence in the States. He answer'd me, that 'twas true, that this Proposal had been made to their Ambassadors, that also *l'Isola* giving them the Remarks which he had made of the *Paris* Treaty, very much exaggerated to them that 'twas a Trap set by the King in order to attack them the more securely: But that he had shew'd his Masters, that these Remarks of *l'Isola* were designing and extravagant, and shew'd the Spirit of the Author, in that he had not comprehended in them the Advantage which the *Spaniards* receiv'd by it, since their Ruin had been infallible if we had not sav'd them by this Treaty; that he could also assure me, that the States would answer their Ambassadors in *England*, that they don't approve the Conditions which were proposed, and that they should answer that the States would not enter into any defensive Alliance nor Treaty with the *Spaniards*. He farther said to me, that he saw with pain, that several Cities of *Holland* and even entire Pro-

Provinces were strongly inclin'd to ally with the *Engliſh*; that his Sentiment would be, earnestly to endeavour to break these Measures, and that he could not do it alone without the King's entring into it, which would serve him for a Pretence to act with the more Vigour; that the time is favourable, all Suspicions of universal Monarchy being remov'd by the Peace which is sign'd, and by the sincere and obliging way of acting which the King us'd on this Occasion; that he own'd to me, that he had found true all the Advices which I had given him from you, on the Cabals against his Person set on foot by *England*, in concert with the House of *Orange*; that he believ'd that we were entring on a Conjunction proper to destroy all their Projects; but that this was to be very tenderly carry'd, and with profound Secrecy; that his Design was to enter into a new Alliance with the King, to oppose the Pretension of the King of *England*, of being King of the Sea, and his obliging the Ships as well of the King as those of the States to strike, which is an insupportable Superiority; that if the King would enter into a Treaty with the States on the form of Salutation betwixt them, as it was talk'd of the last Campaign, that is to say, that the Ships of the States should strike first to the King, and that those of the King should salute them afterwards; that he would hope to bring the States to oblige themselves by this Treaty to join a good number of Ships with those of the King, to force the *Engliſh* to renounce that Pretension, or fight them where-ever they found 'em; that what they had done to Monsieur *de la Roche*, ought to make us think that in Process of time they would do worse, and that we should make known to the whole World by such a Treaty, the strict Union in which the King and the States are, and make all those lose their Hopes who are perswaded that there remains a sourness and distrust in the Mind of his Majesty, on account of what has pass'd since the 23d of *January*. I answer'd him, that I could not enter on such a Negotiation

gociation without the King's Order; that I well knew that we have the same Pretension as the *English*, to oblige striking without our returning the Salutation; but that I would give you an account of all that he had said on it. He reply'd to me, that he should be very sorry that the King had that Pretension which would break all the Measures, by reason that about this there would here daily arise Disputes which would sour their Minds, the States giving Order to their Admiral not to strike to any King, if they are not sure of having the Salutation return'd them; and that what he had said to me was to testify the Desire that he had that the States should League with *France* rather than *England*; that in the Disposition in which she is to unite with *Holland*, he shall not perhaps reject an Accommodation for the sake of safety, by allying with them against the other Kings which will not do it. I entreat you, Sir, to let me with the first possible know the King's Sentiments on this Affair; for if his Majesty thinks a stricter Union with the States would be necessary to his Service, we ought not to lose this Conjunction which is favorable to procure the turn of all the Cities and Princes which are inclin'd for *England*. I dare also venture to tell you, Sir, that if Monsieur *de Wit* does not find himself sustain'd by the King on such a Proposition, he will take other Measures, and perhaps may be forc'd to acquiesce with the Sentiments of the *English* Party, which will not be but at the last Extremity, being very ill satisfy'd with, and having but little Esteem for the *English* Council, a great Contempt of that of *Spain*, and of their Ministers, and laying no stress on the Resolutions of the *Swedes*, which he found very much self-interested, and on the contrary a high Value for the Person of the King of his Valour, of his great Mind, and of his Conduct, to that degree that he said boldly in the Assembly, that he must own, that the first and most solid Council that there was in Christendom, was that of the King, of which he is the Chief, which does not appear

appear in other Countries. This is the Posture in which Affairs are at present, in which you will see farther than I do, by reason of your great Capacity and Experience.

I must tell you only, that if you think it necessary to act to drive the *English* from the good Understanding which they daily improve by their Intrigues in the Cities of *Holland*, 'twill be necessary to set about Negotiating it as soon as possible.

I did not find in your Dispatch the Letter which you mention to Monsieur de *Zuylichem*; but have been with him to thank him from you for the Order which he has sent to *Orange* for the Satisfaction of the Bishop; I have also written to Monsieur *Millet* Governor of *Orange*, a Captain in my Regiment, to serve and protect his Interests to the utmost of his Power, and I doubt not but he will do it, being a very honest Gentleman, and one of my Friends. The *Spaniards* will not now engage the Towns and Country of *Upper Gelderland*, taking advantage of the separate Article, which leaves them at Liberty to do it or refuse it. But yet they have insinuated, that if the States were willing to engage in a defensive Treaty betwixt *Spain*, *England* and *Sweden*, they would proceed farther. They also refus'd to execute what they have promis'd to the *Swedes* for Subsidies; which gives occasion to the States to complain of the *Spaniards*: As far as I can judge, the States will agree with *Sweden* for the Subsidies due on the past Account, and will give something annually to keep them in their Interest.

The Troops of the Dukes of *Luneburg* are garrison'd in the Towns on the *Rhine*, and the *Yssel*, they are very good and compleat. The Prince of *Orange* is return'd from the Army, and was at the Review: His Friends advise him to go to *Zealand*, to make Interest for his Reception amongst the chief of the Nobility; but he will not take that Voyage very suddenly; but in *Holland* they are endeavouring to deprive the Sieur *Hubert* of his Charge of Pensionary, he being averse to

the Designs of *Holland*, and very zealous for the Interests of the House of *Orange*; he is one of the greatest Enemies which *Monsieur de Wit* has in this Country.

I am at this very present moment inform'd that *Monsieur de Beverning* is to return hither, go to *Brussels*, and continue there, to assist the Marquess of *Castel Rodrigo*, in Conjunction with the Deputies of the States there, to finish the Peace, and then to come hither. I am, &c.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: May 17, 1668.

I Have receiv'd, Sir, your Dispatch, which I have communicated to *Monsieur de Wit*, who said he had nothing to say against your Refusal of the Ratification which was presented, nor that he did not think it valid, it having been executed after that the Queen of *Spain* and her Council had seen and read the Treaty made at *Paris*, and inserted it *verbatim* in the mention'd Ratification, and to that end sent a sign'd Blank, to be fill'd up with what might be added at *Aix la Chapelle*; but the ill Procedure of *Castel Rodrigo*, and his breach of Promise in several Cases, well deserve the Mortification which the King gives him, whence all the People of *Flanders* see that 'tis he alone who is the Cause of all their Miseries and Sufferings, and that his Majesty's Army subsists at the Expence of his Master, which he might have avoided if he had acted sincerely.

He told me, that the *Swedes* had at *London* sign'd the League made at the *Hague*, into which they had promis'd to enter; that this had been deserr'd, because that they would have had the States beforehand to have paid three hundred thousand Rixdollars, which the *Spaniards* ow'd, and for which the said States had been Security; but that they refusing to conclude this Treaty if they persisted in this Pretension, the Count *de Dohna* desisted from it, and only requir'd the Interposition

position of the States to the *Spaniards*, to engage them to pay that Sum, pursuant to their Promise, they being resolv'd to force them in case of Refusal.

The *Sieur de Wit* also farther talk'd to me on the Affair of striking the Flags, he is apprehensive of an occasion happening at Sea, which will sour the Minds of the *English* against *France* and this State.

The Admiral *de Ruyter* is ready to put to Sea with forty eight Sail, he has Orders not to strike his Flag to any King, unless he is assur'd that the Compliment of the Flag shall be return'd him: He is still in the same Sentiment which I gave my self the Honour to write to you, which is to make a Treaty of Guarantee betwixt the King and this State, to oblige the King of *England* to return the Salutation by striking the Flag, and to make use of Force in case of Refusal. He says, that if the King should send me Power to treat on this Affair, he would so well pitch on his time in managing the Deputies of the Cities, that he did not doubt the bringing them, in this case, to a Rupture with *England*, supposing that he be secure of being supported by *France* on that Subject. An angry Resentment seems already to appear against *England* in some Towns in *Holland* and *Zealand*, News being come to the States, that notwithstanding what was concluded after the Treaty of *Breda*, after which, for the greater Precaution, the States would not exchange the Ratifications, before the King of *England* had given his Letters Patents by which he declar'd, that the Countries and Places in the Occupation of the States during the War should remain to them, if not retaken before the 20th of *May* 1667, as is mention'd in the Treaty. The States, to prevent all Inconveniences, dispatch'd a Frigate to carry these Letters Patents, and the Copy of the Treaty at *Breda* to the Governor of *Suratte*, who sent it to the Lord *d'Olby*. When he appear'd on the Coast with five Ships, which was not till *October*, he would not respect the Order of the King of *England*, but made a Descent, attack'd and took the Fort, rendred himself Master of

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the Country, pillag'd the Inhabitants, and burnt all the Sugar-works, to the end that all that Country should be laid waste before the loss of it; the States have sent seven Ships to attack him, with Orders to give no quarter: In such Conjunction as this we might considerably advance Affairs with the People, if we were inform'd of the King's Intentions. I answer'd Monsieur *de Wis*, as I mention'd in the former Dispatch concerning the Salutation of the Flag, that as I had not Order to enter upon such a Negotiation, I could say no more to him than that I would write to you on it: I also told him, that I did not comprehend of what use the signing the Treaty with *Sweden* was, since it appear'd by one of the Letters of the States Ambassadors, which says that 'twas necessary to endeavour an Agreement with *Sweden* on the Subsidies, to draw them into their Interest; which pre-supposes that there is some Negotiation, since the Assembly of the States of *Holland* was convok'd on this Dispatch. He did not too strenuously defend himself on this subject, and I clearly discern that they will open their Purses to secure the *Swedes*, and keep the Dukes of *Branswick*, which will cover all their Frontiers on the side of *Germany*; you may know more of the particulars from *England*, where these sorts of Affairs are treated, before they appear in *Holland*.

The States have express'd great Joy on the King's Orders, which you sent to *Boulogne*, to permit the Owners of the Vessel which is stranded, to fetch off their Effects out of the Ware-houses where they are stow'd, and to reembark them, and continue on their Voyage.

The Bishop of *Munster* has referr'd to the States, the Arbitration of his Dispute with the Province of *Gelderland* concerning *Bershele*: He has given them to understand, that he is willing to be well with them, and be their Friend.

From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de Lionne: May 14, 1668.

Monsieur de Wit has been these four Days in the Cities of *Holland* to negotiate there, and will not return before *Saturday Night*; all that I can advance is, that the *Spaniards* and *English* very much warm the Provinces on the Indisposition of the King of *Spain*, and spread a Report that he cannot live, and suggest that 'tis necessary for them to Precaution themselves against the Designs of the King, who, they say, will not fail to pretend to the *Netherlands* in case of the death of that Prince, and this is what so easily disposes the Minds of the People here to this tripple League; and there is nothing which they would not do to avoid the *Netherlands* falling into the King's Hands, for 'tis not possible to rid them of the Notion, that if that comes to pass their State will be ruin'd in two Years time. What has been written to them from *Brassels*, that the King builds Cittadels in all the Frontier large Towns very much confirms them in this Opinion, and that the whole Affair would turn on the Conquest of the *Netherlands*, if the King should happen to dye.

According to the tendency of their Inclinations, I see small hopes of successfully bringing about Monsieur de Wit's Design, at least if the King does not content himself with the other Alternative, and that only at the Entreaty of the States, and that by that the tripple Alliance should be stopp'd, which in time will be of more Consequence than at present appears. I am certain that Monsieur de Wit, for his own Interest, will do all in his Power to fix this State in the Interests of *France*; but 'tis not in his Power to break and dissipate the Cabals of *England* and the House of *Orange*, as long as the apparent Pretexs which touch to the quick subsist. It belongs, Sir, to you, who have more Penetration than any other Person, and who truly knows the King's Sentiments, to write early what his M^ysty

thinks ought to be done for his Service in this Conjunction; for if the States should confirm this tripple League, and draw over to them the other Allies, the League would be so strong as not to be broken; also, if in the beginning the King should find his Advantage, by accepting at the Intercession of the States the other Alternative, and allying himself anew with the said States by a Treaty of Guarantee, after being agreed on the striking of the Flag, which would be directly against the Pretensions of the King of *England*, I don't doubt the overthrowing of this tripple Alliance, and removing all Jealousies out of the Minds of these People, which will always return as long as the Cause shall subsist.

Monsieur *de Beverning* is return'd from *Brussels*: He has made his Report to the States, and has very much magnify'd the Exactness with which Monsieur *de Croissy* has acted at *Aix*, to advance the Peace: He complains of the Conversation of the *Spaniards*, having clearly discern'd at *Brussels* that all that *Castel Rodrigo* has done, was only to engage the States to some act of Rupture, in order afterwards to leave *France* and them to dispute the War betwixt them.

The Marquis made him wait two Days before he could have Audience. He receiv'd him very coldly at first, and spake above two Hours without giving him time to answer. He propos'd to him the borrowing of a Sum of Mony, and Monsieur *de Beverning* answer'd him, that if he would treat of a Remission for the Merchants of *Antwerp*, by way of *Amsterdam*, and that the said Merchants were Security for it, he might get the Sum he ask'd; and that the States had given him order to tell him that they were Security for three hundred thousand Rixdollars which he had promis'd to the *Swedes*, and that he ought to pay them; he reply'd to him, that he would do it willingly, if a quadruple League was form'd, in which *Spain* would enter on the Conditions of the Guarantee betwixt these four Confederates; but that he did not think himself oblig'd to pay that Sum to the *Swedes* for nothing: To
which

which *Beverning* reply'd, that nothing must be mention'd to the States which would shock the King, and that they would not do it: By *Beverning's* Discourse, he seems dissatisfy'd with the Conversation which he had with the Marquis, whom he thinks but little qualify'd for such a great Government as that which he has: He told me, that they were all deceiv'd on the Choice of the Alternative, and that they did not know what the Dependances, Governments and Appurtenances of the conquer'd Places were, and that to have them is properly to be Master of the *Netherlands* and of Trade, there being no Commerce with ut passing thro' the Cities which the King possesses.

The States Fleet is putting to Sea, being in number sixty Sail, eighteen of the largest of which are Ind'd; 'tis to be fear'd that this Fleet has some private Orders to act against *Portugal: Amsterdam* and some other Cities are for a Rupture with that Kingdom.

Memorial presented by the Count D'Estrades to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands: May 30, 1668.

THE Count *d'Estrades*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *France*, has Order from the King his Master, to make Instance in his Name to your Lordships, that 'twill please them to grant to his Majesty the same Act of Guarantee, for the certainty of the Peace which has lately been concluded, that they are ready to give to the *Spaniards*. His Majesty has also given Order to make the same Instance in his Name to the King of *Great Britain* to the same Purpose; on which he is perswaded no difficulty will be made neither in *England*, nor in *Holland*, since 'tis what is very just, and besides as such is already offer'd, stipulated

• pulated and promis'd in the Treaty made at Paris the
 • 19th of April last. Given at the Hague, May 30, 1668.

D'ESTRADES.

*From the Count D'Estrades to Monsieur de
 Lionne: May 31, 1668.*

I Have communicated the Points, and those of your precedent Dispatch to Monsieur de Wit, who return'd but Yesterday from the Progress which he has taken in the Cities of *Holland*; he has afresh confirm'd to me that the tripple Alliance which was sign'd at *London*, is not at all against his Majesty's Interests, but only for two Reasons, one of which ceases, which is the conclusion of the Peace; and the other subsists, which is for the Guarantee of the said Peace, into which all Kings and Princes may enter; that the States have refus'd all the Propositions which have been made by the *Spaniards*, and the Emperor's Minister, to be comprehended in this tripple Alliance, and inserted in it, that the one should be oblig'd to defend the others; that *England* was also very much inclin'd to it, and has press'd their Ambassadors to write to the States to consent to it; but that they have absolutely refus'd it, and declar'd that they will never do it.

As to what concerns the Subsidies promis'd to *Sweden*, that the Offices which he had done and would do to oblige the *Spaniards* to keep their Word, without their paying their Mony, in case of Non-payment by the *Spaniards*; but they would retrench all the Favours which the said *Spaniards* could pretend to from the States, as they had begun to do this Morning, by refusing to Don *Estevan de Gamarra* the Act of Guarantee of the Peace which he ask'd of them for the *Spaniards*: He answer'd him, that tho' their Deputies had sign'd it at *Brussels*, the States would not ratifie it 'till they had paid the *Swedes* the Sum which they had agreed on,

on, and that the States granted the said Guarantee to the King on Request which I had made, his Majesty having acted with all manner of Sincerity and Honour in the said Treaty of Peace. *Esteven de Gamarra* was very angry at this, and said before the Deputies, that perhaps the two Kings might soon agree, and hinted as tho' he believ'd that the King his Master would give up all the *Netherlands* to *France*, in exchange for the *Rouffillon*: This Discourse was consonant to what had been already dispers'd thro' all the Cities of *Holland*, which has not a little help'd to encrease Jealousies in Minds which are very susceptible of them: For whatever is said on this Subject is easily believ'd in this Country.

You will by that judge of what *Monfieur de Wit* has said to me, as also by the Advices which you have from other Places, to which more Credit is to be given; but it seems to me, by all that I have observ'd here amongst my Acquaintance, that they have no Intention to pay for the *Spaniards* the Sum which they have promis'd to the *Swedes*, nor to give them the Subsidies to be enter'd into this tripple Alliance.

Monfieur de Wit told me very seriously that he would disguise nothing from me, and that the Event would prove what he said; that 'tis true, that the States are very much divided; that if one were to judge by the Talk even of some who are in the Government, they would make this tripple Alliance to pass for a new League, in which the House of *Austria* is comprehended; and he is not surpriz'd that such things are reported, tho' false, since they print them in their Cities, which proceeds from the Liberties establish'd in a Republick, without the States being able to remedy it.

He told me, that *Monfieur van Beuningen* had Order by this Post, to satisfy you concerning the tripple League; but you nor he not having mention'd it, he thought that you had spoken with him concerning it; The said *Sieur de Wit* did not forget to ask me what was your Answer on the Subject of a new Alliance betwixt the

the King and the States, concerning the striking of the Flag: I answer'd him, that the King, before declaring himself, would know whether if this Union were made, it would break this tripple Alliance lately made betwixt *England, Sweden and Holland*, and which seems to the Eyes of all the World to be only against *France*: He reply'd to me, that he could not better acquaint me in what this tripple Alliance consists, than the Explication he had lately made me of it, there being nothing new in it against the King's Interests; and that as for the Union which he propos'd, if the King agrees to it, he will transact with the Cities of *Holland* to perswade them to deliver themselves from this Subjection which the King of *England* would impose on them of striking the Flag without returning them the same Salutation; that he could not know the time of an Assembly, and that after having dispos'd the Deputies to consent to it, he thought 'twould be proper for the King to send me a Power to sign it, and that his Majesty should at the same time send a Project of it, such as he should judge to be the most certainly effectual, to force the *English* to what the King and the States desir'd; that he would in the mean time tell me his Scheme, which was to conclude a Union betwixt the King and the States, and to promise one another to break with *England*, in case that the *English* pretended to any Salutation or other difference on the Sea from the King's Ships; and that also if the *English* did not return the Salutation of the Flag to the *Hollanders*, *France* should be oblig'd to break with *England*, as the States in like manner should with *France*, in the above specify'd Case; and so strictly oblige themselves that the King and the States should not make any Accommodation with *England*, 'till they had forc'd them by Arms to renounce this Pretension of the Superiority of the Sea.

The *Sieur de Wit* added, that he did not believe it possible more effectually to convince all Christendom of the strict Union of *France* with the States, than by a Treaty of this Nature; nor could any thing better express

press the difference of the Engagement which the States had enter'd into with his Majesty, from that which they had with *England*, which would be entirely destroy'd by this. He talk'd much to me on the new Reports which the *Spaniards* spread in the Cities, that an Exchange of the *Netherlands* for the *Roussillon* was treating of in *Spain* by *Pimentel*; which so wrought on the Minds of these People, that they would think themselves all lost if this Exchange took place; that to put an end to all these Jealousies rais'd by the Artifices of the *Spaniards*, he thought that in the Union which was to be made betwixt the King and the States on the Affair of the Flag, 'twould be necessary to insert an Article to contain, that in case of the Death of the King of *Spain*, the King and the States should take Arms to force the *Spaniards* out of the *Netherlands*, and oblige the said Country to erect its self into a Republick, and that the King should be free to carry his Arms every where in the Kingdoms and Countries of the King of *Spain*, to conquer them: By this means we shall overthrow all the Designs of the *Spaniards*, which tend only to engage the States to make some false Step, by the fears which they suggest to them of the Conquest of *Flanders*; on which we cannot secure our selves here, nor avoid that this case happening, the States entring in all possible Alliances with the *English* and the Princes their Neighbours to oppose it, and that 'tis much better to prevent these Accidents early, and not to wait for a time which will bring us to a Rupture; that he intreated me to believe that his Intention was good, and that he desir'd nothing so much as to see *France* and this State so firmly leagu'd together, that the Cabals of *Spain* and *England*, and those of the *Netherlands*, can never shock them, which would infallibly happen if this propos'd Union were made; but yet referring it to what the King should judge most agreeable to his Interests, he told me that he said all that he had said from himself; affairs of this Nature not being to be executed in a popular State by one Man alone, but by Negotiations

negotiations and Managements with the Deputies of Assemblies, which he would work when he should be assur'd of the King's Sentiments on it. He then told me in Confidence that he found Monsieur *van Beuningen* too warm by his Dispatches, and insinuating Thoughts into the Cities of *Holland*, that the King of *Spain* coming to die, it ought to be expected that the King reassume the Design of conquering the *Netherlands*; that he had wrote to him to write more moderately, and that 'twas in vain to touch on that String amongst People which are not easily cur'd of Impressions which are given them; that he ought to remember that he had written several times to him, that he should mind nothing but making of the Peace; and that 'tis at present made, and that he ought not to stir up any thing which might disturb the Minds of the People; that he very well saw, that Monsieur *van Beuningen* had not all the Complaisance which he had with'd for the King's Ministers in the Course of this Negotiation; that he will cause him to return when the Peace is executed, and that having him with him, he would so well manage him, that he would rid him of all the Visions which he has from the great Apprehensions of the King's Power, and Designs of rendring himself Universal Monarch.

I thank'd him for the Confidence which he had in me on all above-mention'd, and told him that I was very glad that he had remark'd the Passionateness of Monsieur *van Beuningen*, which on several Occasions had prejudic'd the King's Interests, and also that of the States, and that I hop'd that he would cure every thing by his Prudence; that I would give you an Account of what he had said, and that I would impart the Answer to him as soon as I should receive it. This is all that pass'd, Sir, in two Conferences which we had after his Return from the Cities of *Holland*, &c.

From

From the Most Christian King to the States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands, by which he recalls the Count D'Estrades: September 23, 1668.

MOST dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, The ordinary time of the Embassy which the Count *d'Estrades*, Knight of our Orders, and Governor of *Dunkirk*, has worthily exercis'd with you, being expir'd, we could not refuse him the Favour which he has ask'd of us, to return into *France*, as well to be there at leisure to attend his own Affairs, which indispensably require his Presence for some time, as to go to serve us, after that, in his Government; and by this means, nothing more being left for him to do than to present himself in *Holland* to take leave of you, we have pleas'd to accompany him with this Letter, to give you advice of the Resolution which we have taken on this Affair, and to assure you at the same time, that having express'd himself to us with a very particular Resentment of the obliging manner in which you have treated him on all Occasions, we give you great thanks for this Conduct, and shall be very glad to answer it on the Occasions which shall present, by the offers of our Esteem and Friendship: Next praying God, that he have you, most dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, in his holy and excellent Keeping. Wroté at *St. Germain en Laye*, September 23, 1668.

Your good Friend, Allie and Confederate,

LEWIS.

And Lower, De Lionne.

The Superscription was,

To our most dear great Friends, Allies and Confederates, the Lords States-General of the United-Provinces of the Netherlands.

From

*From Messieurs the States-General of the
United-Provinces of the Netherlands
to the Most Christian King, on the Re-
calling of the Count D'Estrades :
October 17, 1668.*

S I R,

AS with joy we receiv'd from the Hands of your Majesty, Monsieur the Count d'Estrades in his Employ of Ambassador Extraordinary, so from the Knowledge that we already have of his Merit, 'tis impossible for us to see his Departure without great Regret, after so many Proofs as he has given us of his Conduct and Affection for the good of this State, so far as it was compatible with the Zeal which he has for the Service of your Majesty: We are oblig'd to you, Sir, for having given us a Minister who is Possessor of such great Parts, and are very happy to see you satisfied with the manner in which we have treated him, tho' 'twas no more than a Duty of acknowledgement towards your Majesty, and of justice with regard to a Person, whom we ought to consider in reality, for his great Qualities as well as his Character. Since they are his own Affairs which oblige him to disengage himself from this Employment, and that 'tis in this Consideration that your Majesty has granted him his Discharge, we must acquiesce in what pleases you, and render you most humble Thanks for being pleas'd to grant what we could not refuse to such a worthy Minister: We shall preserve his Memory after his Retreat, and long remember the Obligation which we have to your Majesty, to excite more and more in us that Affection which we owe your Majesty, and with which we shall pray God,

S I R, &c.

F I N I S.



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